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TODAY: STYLE Entertainment, Page 10

Reuters

General Borong, left, and a Chinese diplomat, Chen Zuoer, waving Monday at the Hong Kong border crossing.

Changing Guard in Wary Hong Kong

By Edward A. Gargan
New York Times Service

HONG KONG — Under ashen skies, the first elements of the People's Liberation Army of China crossed the border into Hong Kong on Monday, the convoy journeying down roads over which more than one million people marched to protest the killing, by that same army, of protesters in Beijing in 1989.

The contingent of 40 officers and soldiers, the first Chinese troops to take up positions in Hong Kong in 150 years, arrived to begin preparations for China's resumption of sovereignty at midnight June 30.

Shortly after noon, and moments after a Royal Navy ship fired a 21-gun salute to honor Queen Elizabeth II's birthday, the Chinese troops crossed into the British colony at Lok Ma Chan. The troops, who were in their green uniforms but not armed, were led by Major General Zhou Borong.

Unescorted, the eight-vehicle convoy, including three camouflage-painted trucks containing communications equipment, maneuvered through fearsome traffic and arrived at the headquarters of the British garrison.

"This is a historic moment for both British and Chinese armed forces," said Major General Bryan Dutton, the commander of British forces, as he stood next to his Chinese counterpart. "We will be working hard together to achieve our common purpose — the smooth transfer of defense responsibility for Hong Kong."

General Zhou, speaking in Mandarin, said that he was looking forward to "mutual cooperation" in the days leading up to the change in sovereignty.

The Chinese Army is regarded with a mixture of fear and uncertainty here, with memories of its savagery still fresh. Virtually every television broadcast announcing the army's arrival here included scenes of the People's Liberation Army assaulting Tiananmen Square in Beijing on June 4, 1989.

Aware of its scarred image, senior Chinese officers have tried to assuage Hong Kong fears by repeatedly promising that Chinese troops would behave in a *wenming*, or civilized, manner.

Chinese soldiers, who will not be permitted to wear their uniforms while outside military bases, are banned from

See TROOPS, Page 4

France to Vote a Year Early

Chirac Seeks 'New Elan' in Approach to Euro

By Craig R. Whitney
New York Times Service

PARIS — Trying to clear the decks before a difficult French rendezvous with a common European currency in 1999, President Jacques Chirac announced the dissolution of the National Assembly on Monday and called elections for the end of May, a year early.

Voters will go to the polls May 25, with a second round June 1 in electoral districts where no candidate wins a first-round majority.

"We have to go further down the road of change without delay," Mr. Chirac said in a nationally broadcast speech Monday night. "To succeed, France needs a new élan, which can come only with the clearly expressed support of the French people."

Skimming over the unpopularity of the efforts he and Prime Minister Alain Juppe made over the last two years to bring change to France's unemployment-ridden welfare state, Mr. Chirac appealed to European ideals.

"Europe is unity, and in unity there is strength," he said.

He asserted that Europe could remain an economic and financial power only with a currency, the euro, that is equal in strength to the dollar and yen.

An opinion poll published Monday in Le Figaro, a Paris daily, found 45 percent of the voters favoring a victory by Mr. Chirac's center-right coalition parties in the new five-year legislature that will be chosen in the vote, but by a much smaller margin than the center-right victory in the last parliamentary elections, in 1993.

Mr. Juppe had the support of 465 of the 577 members of the National Assembly that is being dissolved, but if the opposition Socialists make the gains the poll predicted, the conservative majority would be whittled to about 320.

Mr. Chirac apparently is gambling that the elections will leave him with a majority in the legislature for the rest of his term and ease the way for inauguration of the European currency.

The extreme-right National Front could also win between 14 percent and 15 percent of the vote, the poll said, but since it takes a majority of votes, not a plurality, in an election district to win a seat, it would probably win no more than two or three seats.

Mr. Chirac appealed to voters not to give their support to the National Front. "The answers to the great questions of today do not lie in falling back upon ourselves or in recourse to fear and intolerance," he said, alluding to the National Front's hostility toward immigrants.

Remy de la Mauviniere/The Associated Press

President Jacques Chirac, right, with Philippe Seguin, president of the National Assembly, on Monday.

The party's leader, Jean-Marie Le Pen, is expected to run for the legislature, possibly from Toulon, where his party controls the city council. "A real electoral holdup," Mr. Le Pen said of the president's decision. "If the euro is really at stake, it would be enough to call a referendum on it, as the National Front has repeatedly demanded."

Getting ready for European Monetary Union has required France, Germany and other countries to keep a tight rein on welfare-state spending at a time of soaring unemployment and to get their budget deficits down to no more than 3 percent of gross national product by the end of this year.

The Socialist opposition leader, Lionel Jospin, has been sharply critical of imposing economic sacrifices on the

See FRANCE, Page 6

A Gamble That Could Backfire, Europe Says

By Tom Buerkle
International Herald Tribune

BRUSSELS — The decision to call early elections in France is a high-risk gamble that could turn French political preferences into a decisive referendum on Europe's single currency project, officials and analysts warned Monday.

The rationale for going to the voters nearly one year early — to win backing for the belt-tightening needed to qualify France for monetary union — sent jitters through the financial markets.

"The risks are high because of French attitudes," said J. Paul Horne, senior economist at Smith Barney in Paris. "The French are feeling particularly sorry for themselves. They're put upon by austerity, and there's more austerity in the pipeline."

In Bonn, a senior German official noted the potentially worrying parallel with the 1992 decision by then-President Francois Mitterrand to hold a referendum on the Maastricht Treaty on European Union. It nearly backfired when a majority of less than 51 percent endorsed the treaty's blueprint for a single currency.

"That was a clear mistake of President Mitterrand," said a senior official in Bonn. "This could be a mistake of another French president."

A senior EU official in Brussels said the French elections could be seen as the conclusive referendum on the single currency and noted that Mr. Chirac was "taking a really big risk."

Uncertainty about the result weighed on the franc and other French assets in

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AGENDA

Iraq Sets Pilgrim Airlift in Defiance of West

In a new sign of defiance, Iraq said Monday it would dispatch helicopters to the Saudi border to pick up Muslim pilgrims returning from Mecca, despite a ban by the Western allies on all flights in the area. The White House called on Baghdad to reconsider, and warned that the United States would "respond appropriately" to any violation, but it said that civilian helicopters would not be shot down.

The U.S. Defense Department, meanwhile, said it might consider a request from Iran to exempt the pilgrim flights for humanitarian reasons.

It was not immediately clear how many helicopters Iraq intended to dispatch or when it might do so. Iraq sent an Iraqi Airways jet with 104 sick and elderly pilgrims aboard to Saudi Arabia on April 9 despite a United Nations prohibition on international flights. The UN Security Council called on Iraq not to fly more planes without its consent, but stopped short of regarding the flight as a breach of the embargo. Page 2.

The Dollar		
New York	Monday @ 4 P.M.	previous close
DM	1.6975	1.7118
Pound	1.6355	1.633
Yen	125.315	125.885
FF	5.7347	5.7668

The Dow		
	Monday close	previous close
-43.34	6660.21	6703.55

S&P 500		
change	Monday @ 4 P.M.	previous close
-5.97	760.37	766.34

Toxic Leak Is Found In Mir Space Station

MOSCOW (AFP) — A substance that can cause brain damage is leaking from the air-conditioning system of the Russian space station Mir, Moscow Echo radio said Monday. A cosmonaut, Alexander Lazutkin, has been treated for an allergic reaction after a drop of the poisonous solvent ethylene glycol fell into his eye, the radio said. Five Russians and an American are aboard Mir.

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The IHT on-line http://www.iht.com

Threats to London Bring Road-Rail-Air Chaos

By Erik Ipsen
International Herald Tribune

LONDON — A series of coded bomb threats, thought to be the work of the Irish Republican Army, forced the evacuation of major railroad stations and airports in and around London on Monday morning, throwing the city's traffic into chaos.

With traffic backed up for 10 miles (16 kilometers) on the M25 beltway around the capital, and with many key inner city streets blocked off, a subway line completely closed and others badly disrupted, London was the place to avoid Monday.

"Basically, west London and central London are closed," said Peter Brill, a spokesman for the Royal Automobile Club.

At one point, more than 4,000 passengers were trapped in planes, unable to disembark at Gatwick Airport after the evacuation. At the height of the crisis, a Gatwick manager told The Associated Press that he was trying to find temporary accommodation for 8,000 people who had been cleared from the airport's south terminal.

By noon, the situation had returned to normal in most of London, after police searches failed to turn up any bombs. Prime Minister John Major praised travelers for their patience in coping with unexpectedly long and tortuous morning commuting.

While Britons handled the latest mangling of their schedules with aplomb, there were signs that their patience was wearing thin. In a front-page editorial next to the headline "IRA Halts London By Phone," the Evening Standard asked, "How long can a great nation tolerate being made the victim of a devastatingly effective cat-and-mouse game by a gang of terrorist fanatics?"

It went on to argue in favor of ignoring future warnings rather than submitting to the whim of the IRA, in an

See LONDON, Page 6

David Thompson/Agence France-Presse

A police officer Monday on London's Strand, a normally bustling street emptied by bomb threats.

Netanyahu Shores Up Israeli Coalition

But Foes Seek to Overturn Decision Not to Indict Prime Minister

By Barton Gellman
Washington Post Service

JERUSALEM — A flurry of legal filings Monday sought to reverse a prosecutors' decision to drop a criminal investigation against Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and his justice minister, but Mr. Netanyahu brushed the affair aside and tightened his grip on office.

Legislators from the opposition Meretz and Labor parties asked the Supreme Court to overturn what they called an "extremely unreasonable" exercise of prosecutorial discretion that they said left the integrity of the legal system under a cloud.

On Sunday, Attorney General Elyakim Rubinstein rejected police recommendations to indict Mr. Netanyahu and Justice Minister Tzahi Hanegbi for fraud and breach of trust over their handling of a political appointment, saying there was insufficient proof against them. But in their filings, the opposition parties argued that the police recommendation, together with the evidence in a prosecutors' report, raised implications of criminal behavior that required resolution in court.

Mr. Netanyahu, who acknowledged error but no wrongdoing in the case, Monday announced formation of a committee to screen the selection of candidates for future high-level jobs. He named to the committee Finance Minister Dan Meridor and Trade Minister Natan Sharansky, cementing their decisions not to resign.

With those last two successes, Mr. Netanyahu finished a swift job of neutralizing every serious threat to his governing coalition. Mr. Meridor and Communications Minister Limor Livnat had been the likeliest threats with the Likud party to desert Mr. Netanyahu, while the defection of Mr. Sharansky's Israel B'Aliyah party could have cost him 7 of his 66 seats in the 120-seat Parliament.

Mr. Sharansky was reported Monday to have asked for Mr. Hanegbi's departure, but he did not make that a condition of his own return to the fold.

In a news conference and report re-

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Newsstand Prices			
Bahrain	1.000 Din	Malta	55 c.
Cyprus	C. £ 1.00	Nigeria	125,00 Naira
Denmark	14.00 D.Kr.	Oman	1.250 Rials
Finland	12.00 F.M.	Qatar	10.00 Rials
Gibraltar	£ 0.85	Rep. Ireland	IR £ 1.00
Great Britain	£ 0.90	Saudi Arabia	10.00 R
Egypt	E£ 5.50	S. Africa	R12 + VAT
Jordan	1.250 JD	U.A.E.	10.00 Dirh
Kenya	K. SH. 150	U.S. Mil. (Eur.)	$ 1.20
Kuwait	600 Fils	Zimbabwe	Zim.$30.00

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India's New Prime Minister Vows to Ease Tensions With Pakistan

By John F. Burns
New York Times Service

NEW DELHI — As a young man, in 1947, I.K. Gujral, who was sworn in Monday as India's prime minister, joined the throngs of Hindu and Muslim migrants who left their homes when Britain's colonial rulers partitioned the Indian subcontinent into the two new nations of India and Pakistan.

As Hindus with roots in Jhelum, in the northeast of what became Pakistan, Mr. Gujral and his family fled eastward across the new frontier and made a new home in New Delhi, the Indian capital. It was an embittering time for millions of people. Large numbers of Hindus and Muslims were killed by enraged mobs as they migrated, and those who survived were left to struggle with the loss of loved ones, properties, and livelihoods.

Some migrants never recovered, and some on both sides harbored resentments that developed into support for hard-line policies on issues dividing India and Pakistan. But Mr. Gujral did not allow his memories to harden into enmity. He grew to maturity as an Indian politician with a yearning to do something to ease the tensions that led to three wars between India and Pakistan. The relationship, nearly 50 years after partition, is still marked by deep estrangement and suspicion, particularly over the explosive issue of the disputed territory of Kashmir.

When he went to India's presidential palace Sunday with other stalwarts of the United Front coalition that elected him as its leader on Saturday, Mr. Gujral, 77, told President Shankar Dayal Sharma that he was ready to form a new government. It will succeed the one headed by the previous United Front leader, H.D. Deve Gowda, who has been caretaker prime minister since his administration was defeated in Parliament on April 11.

Already, Mr. Gujral, who has twice served as India's foreign minister, most recently in Mr. Deve Gowda's 10-month-long government, has said

See INDIA, Page 4

A Societal Revolution / **Jobs for the Disabled**

Africa Tries to Make Amends for a Scourge

By Stephen Buckley
Washington Post Service

NAIROBI — The disabled once were Africa's invisible men and women, condemned to lives of privation and shame because they were blind or crippled or "slow."

In their youth, their parents blamed the disabilities on curses, often refused to send them to school and sometimes simply denied their existence.

Today, many disabled Africans are overcoming such obstacles to become members of Parliament, officials, entrepreneurs and professionals. Disability-rights groups have spread around the continent, and a number of countries have adopted legislation or constitutional guarantees outlawing discrimination against the disabled, although many Africans remain ignorant of the new laws and some countries continue to discriminate.

"Society's attitudes toward people with disabilities are definitely changing" in Africa, said Seth Mpooya, deputy executive director of the National Union of Disabled People of Uganda. "More of us have jobs. Our standard of living is higher. People see that we are as smart as anybody else."

Those changes in attitudes have wrought extraordinary results in such places as Uganda, where at least five members of Parliament are people with disabilities. Recently, the government appointed a disabled person to a judgeship — an act believed to be unprecedented there.

That judge, Christine Kania, 46, never dreamed she would see such success after a car accident left her paralyzed from the waist down 19 years ago. She thought her legal career was effectively over.

"I knew I would have to work doubly hard to prove myself," said Miss Kania, executive director of the disabled people's group. "Before I was paralyzed, I didn't know anything about the rights of people with disabilities. I didn't think about the issue very much."

Neither did most Africans. In the not-so-distant past, parents with disabled children often forced them to live in shacks behind the main family house. In parts of West Africa, disabled youngsters were forced into slavery.

Rural Africans saw disabled people as useless because they were unable to fetch water or gather firewood or herd livestock. In African cities, people with disabilities were scattered along sidewalks, extending gnarled limbs for spare change.

Those who escaped beggary found jobs as teachers, receptionists, telephone operators. Rarely could disabled Africans find more lucrative employment in the face of hiring discrimination. And employers usually fired workers who, through sickness or accident, became handicapped.

VICTOR KAMAU, a blind attorney, recalls interviewing for a job as a government lawyer in Kenya 10 years ago. The first question pertained to his understanding of a legal term. Then this: How will you get to work? How will you do your research? How will you get around the courtroom?

Mr. Kamau did not get the job. Today, he runs his own law firm. He handles criminal cases primarily and has a special interest in human rights issues.

At the request of a government task force, he recently wrote a 60-page report detailing various Kenyan laws that he says discriminate against people with disabilities.

He is most concerned that while the Kenyan Constitution outlaws discrimination on the basis of sex, tribe, race, place of origin, creed or religion, it ignores people with disabilities.

"We are not going to get far in changing the laws of this country unless the constitution is changed," Mr. Kamau said. "Right now, it's like having a blanket that covers my head but leaves the rest of my body to freeze. There is really no protection."

Mr. Kamau may have unnerved his interviewers a decade ago, but today his legal colleagues afford him no unwelcome attention — or questions.

In the High Court in Nairobi recently, an assistant helped Mr. Kamau weave through knots of lawyers clogging the corridors. As he moved along, dressed smartly in a charcoal gray suit, he drew no startled stares. Lawyers and clients barely turned their heads.

Mr. Kamau and other advocates for the disabled credit no single event for the evolution of attitudes and laws on the continent. Some note the importance of international conferences organized by the United Nations during the 1980s. Others cite the blossoming of democracy in Africa during the early 1990s as having galvanized traditionally downtrodden groups, such as women and the disabled.

"As disabled people, we had a special interest in the democratization process," said Alexander Phiri, a Zimbabwean who heads the African Federation of the Disabled, an affiliation of groups in 10 Southern African countries. "We started saying, if democracy has come, why are we being discriminated against?"

Mr. Phiri said all 53 African countries now have advocacy organizations, whereas perhaps 15 did a decade ago. During that decade, Zimbabwe, Mali, South Africa, Zambia, Botswana and Uganda have prohibited discrimination against the disabled. Several African countries now also have at least one handicapped person in their legislatures.

Maria Rantho, a paraplegic who is a member of the South African Parliament, said her nation's decision to enshrine rights of the disabled in its new constitution "means that the disabled are no longer the forgotten citizens of our country."

"Our rights can no longer be trampled upon," she added.

But the battle to change attitudes continues, goading people such as Kepha Anyanzwa. The Nairobi businessman makes wheelchairs and motorbikes for the handicapped and redesigns cars to allow people with disabilities to drive.

Stephen Buckley/The Washington Post

Kepha Anyanzwa grew up shunned by his village because he had no use of his legs. Today, the Kenyan builds wheelchairs to accommodate the disabled.

Mr. Anyanzwa, 43, is prodded by a passion born in his youth. Unable to use his legs, he found that residents of his village — including his extended family — doomed him to a life of uselessness. They told his parents not to send him to school. They said he would burden the whole village. They wanted him out of sight.

Mr. Anyanzwa's parents defied the village. They insisted on keeping him in school. The family was too poor to afford a wheelchair, so Mr. Anyanzwa's father would carry him on his back.

WHEN THE BOY became a man, "I knew what it was like to have people tell you that you couldn't achieve anything," Mr. Anyanzwa said as he threaded his way through Nairobi traffic in his modified car. "I knew how tough it could be for disabled people."

Feeling the toughest challenge was simply getting around, he started making wheelchairs, using local parts so customers could easily repair them. He and his staff produce 100 wheelchairs a year.

Mr. Anyanzwa, the father of four, takes delight in fashioning chairs that require something extra.

He designed a wheelchair with a potty for a paraplegic whose incontinence had kept him housebound for five years. He frequently receives calls from governments and from advocates for the disabled, asking him to lecture at conferences. His travels have taken him to Sweden, France, Britain, Germany and Canada, and he receives orders from neighboring countries.

He dreams of becoming a member of Parliament. Too often, he said, he has seen merchants refuse to allow the disabled into their shops. He has seen bus drivers pass by the disabled and real estate agents refuse to sell houses to them. Laws change such attitudes, he said.

But for now, he takes pleasure in his work, which has helped disabled people go to their jobs, visit friends, attend the theater.

"I've helped to show that disabled people can do what everybody else can do," he said.

White House Warns Iraq Against Pilgrim Airlift

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

WASHINGTON — The White House warned Iraq on Monday that it would take action if Baghdad violated the Western-imposed flight-exclusion zone to bring back from the Saudi-Iraqi border Iraqis who made a pilgrimage to Mecca in Saudi Arabia.

"We certainly recognize the significance of the hajj, but there are other means and procedures available for the transportation of hajj pilgrims," said Michael McCurry, the White House spokesman.

The Defense Department, meanwhile, said it might consider a request to exempt the hajj flights for humanitarian reasons.

Iraq announced Monday that it would defy the ban on flights over the south of the country, which was imposed during the Gulf War, so that it could pick up Iraqis returning from the annual pilgrimage to Mecca, Islam's holiest city.

Iraqi leaders met before the decision was announced and warned the United States against any attempt to intercept the helicopters, the official Iranian press agency, INA, reported. The meeting was headed by President Saddam Hussein, it said.

"Any American practice threatening the safety of the helicopters and the pilgrims will be met with an appropriate action," the press agency quoted an "authoritative" source, as saying.

The Iraqi press agency said the helicopters would ferry the pilgrims to their home areas from the border, but did not say how many aircraft would be involved or give the number of the pilgrims.

As night approached in Iraq, there was no word from Iraqi officials or the state-run media on whether the flights had started.

Mr. McCurry said, "We would encourage the government of Iraq to meet its own obligations under UN security Council resolutions, and we will monitor carefully any potential violations of the 'no-fly' zone." He said the United States would "respond appropriately" to any violations.

The spokesman did not elaborate on what action might be taken, saying only, "We would not shoot down civilian helicopters, obviously."

Secretary of Defense William Cohen, meanwhile, said that although Washington would not allow Iraq to violate the flight-exclusion zone, it might agree to a request for an exemption.

"The Iraqis are in no position to give any kind of dictates to the American people, or NATO or the United Nations," Mr. Cohen said.

"Obviously when there are humanitarian issues involved that we would be most receptive, the United Nations would be receptive," he said.

Iraq flew a civilian plane to Saudi Arabia on April 9 carrying 104 elderly and sick pilgrims to Mecca despite UN sanctions. The plane returned home the same day.

The UN Security Council issued a statement calling on Iraq not to fly more planes without its consent, but stopped short of regarding the flight as a breach of an embargo on flights in and out of the country that was imposed by the UN Security Council in 1990.

The Iraqi press agency said "practical reasons" prevented Iraq from sending the plane back to transfer the pilgrims home. *(AFP, Reuters)*

Aid to Refugees Is Suspended After Attacks by Zairian Mobs

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

KASESE, Zaire — Aid workers suspended operations in Rwandan refugee camps Monday after an outbreak of looting, murder and attacks on foreign journalists and aid workers by Zairian mobs.

Zairians went on a rampage and attacked foreigners near Kasese, 26 kilometers (16 miles) south of Kisangani, after at least six local people were murdered and two were injured. The Zairians blamed Rwandan Hutu militiamen for the killings.

The World Food Program said Zairian mobs also raided a food depot, and in a separate incident looted a trainload of food intended for Rwandans in refugee camps, while Zairian rebel soldiers did nothing to stop them.

"Almost on every front, we are facing problems," Michele Quintaglie of the World Food Program said by telephone from Nairobi.

"At this point, we cannot continue to keep sending food worth tens of thousands of dollars without assurances from the rebels."

The food supplies are essential to 100,000 refugees, who are dying at a rate of about 60 a day from starvation and disease as they wait for rebels and aid agencies to agree on plans to send them home.

Tensions have been high between Zairians and the refugees because local people accuse Rwandans of stealing their crops. Even though it was not clear who committed the murders, Zairians blamed the refugees.

Armed with knives, machetes and clubs, the angry Zairians said they had looted vehicles at the urging of the Tutsi-dominated rebels, who have seized more than half of Africa's third largest country. *(AP, Reuters)*

■ **Mobutu-Kabila Talks Delayed**

Last-minute haggling has delayed the first face-to-face encounter between President Mobutu Sese Seko and his civil war rival, Laurent Kabila, Reuters reported from Cape Town, quoting South African government sources Monday.

But they said President Nelson Mandela telephoned Marshal Mobutu over the weekend and remained confident that talks to avert a rebel assault on Kinshasa would go ahead.

New Foe for Rebels: Inflation

The Associated Press

LUBUMBASHI, Zaire — Rebels on a triumphant march through Zaire have discovered that President Mobutu Sese Seko still controls a potent weapon: the printing presses of the national mint.

In recent months, the faltering Mobutu regime flooded the Lubumbashi region with New Zaire bills in huge new denominations to pay off government debts, even though the national treasury had no reserve to back them.

When anti-Mobutu rebels seized Zaire's second-largest city on April 11, they found it in the throes of a currency crisis. The collapse of the New Zaire's value in Lubumbashi forced local prices out of reach for many.

For the rebels, seizing control of the currency has proved tougher than seizing control of the city.

Soon after taking Lubumbashi, the rebels tried to restore order to the local currency market by declaring Marshal Mobutu's new 500,000 and 1 million New Zaire notes worthless. Elsewhere in Zaire, no bills larger than 100,000 were accepted.

Residents left holding the worthless bills took to the streets in protest, jeering "Dollar, Dollar" at the rebel finance minister. Nearly all stores in the city closed down.

For many, even a few of the big bills represented most of their savings.

"It is like they killed me," moaned Mbanga Gedone, a salesman, waving 500 million in large New Zaire bills, worth $3,500 at the official rate and now, he feared, worthless. "And there are many who have a lot more than this. What are we going to do now?"

The panic forced the rebels to temporarily reinstate the big bills as legal tender Friday, although few people will now accept them.

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TRAVEL UPDATE

Belgian Strike Could Hit Eurostar

BRUSSELS (Reuters) — Belgium faces a day of travel chaos Tuesday, with rail workers striking for 24 hours over reorganization plans in a selective stoppage that could also disrupt Eurostar service between Brussels and London.

Disruption from the strike, which was to last until 10 P.M. on Tuesday, was expected to be worst in the southwest and northeast, but the Belgian railroad also warned that Paris-Brussels-Amsterdam service could be affected, as well as the Eurostar. It advised travelers to head for Lille, in France, to board trains to London, Paris and the south of France.

SAS Flight Breaks a Sexist Ceiling

STOCKHOLM (AFP) — Passengers aboard a Scandinavian Airlines System flight from Dublin to Stockholm witnessed a first: an all-female crew operating the MD-81 jet, according to the Swedish daily Expressen.

Captain Charlotte Trygg, one of two women who are SAS captains, and Jeanette Groenlund flew the jet Sunday. The two flight attendants and the purser also were women. Passengers applauded an in-flight announcement of the event.

Belgium Attacks Reckless Driving

BRUSSELS (Reuters) — Belgium began a campaign Monday against reckless driving that is aimed primarily at cutting the number of children killed and injured. It will include signs marking spots where accidents have occurred.

About 1,000 children are killed every year in traffic accidents in the country, and 5,000 others are injured.

The Australian Tourist Commission plans to open an office in China this year, following a 26.7 percent increase in the number of mainland Chinese who visited the country in 1996, to nearly 54,000, the commission said. *(Reuters)*

Japan celebrated the completion of a 9.6-kilometer tunnel for auto traffic under Tokyo Bay, part of an expressway between Kawasaki and Kisarazu, which the Construction Ministry said would be finished in December. *(AFP)*

German Passport Holders heading for Singapore in April. 50% off at the stylish boutique hotel in Orchard Road, Singapore.

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Beer Consumption Flatter in Germany

Agence France-Presse

BONN — Germans are drinking less and less beer but remain the world's top consumers, along with the Czechs, brewery statistics released Monday showed.

Annual consumption of 131.7 liters per head in 1996 was down from 135.9 for the previous year, the German Brewers' Federation president, Michael Dietzsch, told reporters in Bonn.

In 1991, the average German drank 141.9 liters of beer.

The brewers' federation said a change in the drinking habits of young people, as well as poor summer weather, was responsible for the falling consumption.

WEATHER

Europe

	Today High C/F	Today Low W C/F	Tomorrow High C/F	Tomorrow Low W C/F
Algarve	19/66	11/52 c	21/70	12/53 s
Amsterdam	8/46	2/35 pc	11/52	5/41 pc
Ankara	22/71	11/52 c	19/66	11/52 r
Athens	24/75	14/57 s	21/70	8/46 s
Barcelona	15/59	6/43 s	14/57	6/43 s
Belgrade	13/55	4/39 r	7/44	2/35 r
Berlin	10/50	-2/29 pc	8/46	-1/31 pc
Brussels	9/48	2/35 pc	12/53	4/39 pc
Budapest	8/46	2/35 r	13/55	-2/29 s
Copenhagen	7/44	-4/25 pc	6/43	-2/29 pc
Costa Del Sol	19/66	14/57 r	18/64	11/52 c
Dublin	10/50	4/39 c	12/53	6/46 c
Edinburgh	6/43	1/34 sh	10/50	8/46 sh
Florence	13/55	2/35 pc	15/59	3/37 s
Frankfurt	8/46	-4/25 c	7/44	-3/27 pc
Geneva	10/50	-1/31 pc	12/53	1/34 s
Helsinki	3/37	-2/29 sn	6/43	-6/22 pc
Istanbul	23/73	13/55 pc	24/75	11/52 s
Kiev	9/48	3/37 sh	13/55	2/35 r
Las Palmas	21/70	17/62 pc	22/71	17/62 pc
Lisbon	18/64	11/52 c	20/68	13/55 s
London	11/52	3/37 pc	13/55	6/43 pc
Madrid	19/66	4/39 pc	19/66	5/41 s
Mallorca	13/55	7/44 s	12/53	7/44 s
Milan	15/59	1/34 s	16/61	2/35 s
Moscow	7/44	1/34 pc	12/53	6/46 r
Munich	7/44	-4/25 pc	7/44	-3/27 c
Nice	15/59	6/43 s	14/57	7/44 s
Oslo	6/43	-4/25 c	7/44	-2/29 pc
Paris	11/52	1/34 pc	12/53	4/39 pc
Prague	10/50	-3/27 pc	7/44	-4/25 pc
Reykjavik	5/41	4/39 sh	6/43	1/34 sh
Riga	7/44	-1/31 pc	7/44	-6/24 pc
Rome	11/52	2/35 r	12/53	2/35 pc
St. Petersburg	4/39	0/32 c	6/43	-2/29 sn
Stockholm	4/39	-8/22 c	4/39	-5/24 s
Strasbourg	11/52	1/34 pc	11/52	2/35 pc
Tallinn	3/37	-1/31 sn	5/41	-5/24 pc
Tbilisi	23/73	11/52 pc	27/80	16/61 pc
Venice	12/53	2/35 pc	13/55	2/35 s
Vienna	11/52	0/32 pc	10/50	-3/27 s
Warsaw	10/50	-1/31 s	8/46	-7/20 s
Zurich	8/46	-1/31 pc	9/48	0/32 pc

Middle East

Abu Dhabi	27/80	17/62 s	28/82	17/62 s
Beirut	25/77	18/64 s	22/89	24/75 s
Cairo	39/102	22/71 s	43/109	25/79 s
Damascus	32/89	13/55 s	30/97	15/64 s
Jerusalem	29/84	15/59 s	34/93	19/66 s
Luxor	43/109	18/64 s	45/115	20/68 s
Riyadh	32/89	16/61 s	34/93	17/62 s

Forecast for Wednesday through Friday, as provided by AccuWeather.

North America
A storm heading northeastward out of Texas will dump heavy rain from Tennessee and Kentucky to Pennsylvania. Strong thunderstorms will fire up across the Southeast from Mississippi into the Carolinas. Much cooler with showers across the Southwest from Wednesday through Friday.

Europe
London and Paris will be mainly dry and seasonable the next few days, but there will be showers across northern England and southern France. Rain will continue across the Balkan region Wednesday, but Thursday and Friday will be dry. Some sun and dry across most of Italy and central Europe.

Asia
Dry and mild in Beijing Wednesday, but showers are likely Thursday and Friday. An area of steady rain will shift southward reaching from near Hong Kong inland across Yunnan province. Tokyo will be dry through the period with some sun; it will be cool on Wednesday, but milder by Friday.

North America

	Today High C/F	Today Low W C/F	Tomorrow High C/F	Tomorrow Low W C/F
Anchorage	7/44	-1/31 pc	9/48	2/35 c
Atlanta	28/79	13/55 t	23/73	11/52 sh
Boston	12/53	5/41 c	13/55	7/44 pc
Chicago	13/55	2/35 pc	12/53	3/37 sh
Dallas	23/73	9/48 sh	24/75	14/57 pc
Denver	14/57	2/35 pc	18/64	3/37 sh
Detroit	14/57	3/37 pc	13/55	6/41 r
Honolulu	29/84	23/73 pc	31/88	23/73 pc
Houston	25/82	13/55 pc	25/82	17/62 pc
Los Angeles	24/75	13/55 pc	23/73	9/48 pc
Miami	30/86	21/70 sh	30/86	22/71 pc
Minneapolis	13/55	2/35 pc	11/52	3/37 pc
Montreal	8/46	-1/31 sh	11/52	3/37 pc
Nassau	30/86	22/71 s	29/84	21/70 pc
New York	13/55	7/44 r	14/57	9/48 pc
Orlando	30/86	19/66 pc	30/86	17/62 pc
Phoenix	33/91	19/66 s	31/88	14/57 pc
San Fran.	19/66	10/50 pc	16/61	8/46 pc
Seattle	15/61	8/46 r	14/57	7/44 sn
Toronto	9/48	-1/31 sh	12/53	3/37 sn
Vancouver	14/57	8/46 r	14/57	6/43 sh
Washington	14/57	9/48 sh	16/61	10/50 pc

Legend: s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, i-ice, W-Weather. All maps, forecasts and data provided by AccuWeather, Inc. © 1997

Asia

	Today High C/F	Today Low W C/F	Tomorrow High C/F	Tomorrow Low W C/F
Almaty	23/73	11/52 pc	24/75	11/52 pc
Bali	31/88	24/75 r	31/88	23/73 c
Bangkok	33/91	24/75 pc	32/89	23/73 pc
Beijing	22/71	7/44 s	19/66	8/46 pc
Bombay	30/86	23/71 pc	32/89	23/73 pc
Calcutta	34/93	21/70 s	34/93	22/71 pc
Chiang Mai	33/91	22/71 pc	33/91	21/70 pc
Colombo	29/84	23/73 pc	29/84	23/73 pc
Hanoi	27/80	21/70 c	26/77	19/66 sh
Ho Chi Minh	33/91	24/75 pc	32/89	24/75 c
Hong Kong	25/77	20/68 c	23/73	19/64 sh
Islamabad	36/97	19/64 s	37/99	20/68 s
Jakarta	29/84	23/73 r	29/84	23/73 r
Karachi	32/89	19/66 s	31/88	19/64 s
K. Lumpur	32/89	22/71 pc	31/88	22/71 pc
K. Kinabalu	31/88	21/70 pc	31/88	21/70 pc
Manila	32/89	21/70 c	33/91	21/70 pc
New Delhi	40/104	30/86 s	40/104	21/70 s
Phnom Penh	30/86	24/75 sh	33/91	23/73 c
Phuket	33/91	24/75 pc	32/89	23/73 pc
Rangoon	33/91	24/75 pc	33/91	24/75 pc
Seoul	15/64	2/35 s	17/62	4/39 s
Shanghai	19/66	9/48 s	17/62	7/44 pc
Singapore	31/88	21/70 pc	31/88	21/70 pc
Taipei	25/77	17/62 sh	23/73	14/57 pc
Tokyo	19/66	16/61 r	17/62	7/44 pc
Vientiane	27/80	22/71 c	24/75	19/66 sh

Africa

Algiers	17/62	9/48 pc	14/57	7/44 r
Cape Town	16/59	11/52 r	14/57	7/44 sh
Casablanca	16/61	9/48 c	17/62	12/53 pc
Harare	28/82	12/53 pc	29/84	13/55 pc
Lagos	30/86	23/73 sh	31/88	23/73 pc
Nairobi	26/79	16/61 sh	23/73	16/61 r
Tunis	17/62	7/44 pc	16/61	6/43 pc

Latin America

Buenos Aires	23/73	12/53 pc	23/73	12/53 pc
Caracas	29/84	23/73 pc	30/86	23/73 pc
Lima	24/75	19/64 pc	24/75	19/64 pc
Mexico City	23/73	11/52 pc	23/73	11/52 pc
Rio de Janeiro	29/84	20/68 r	26/79	21/70 c
Santiago	22/71	11/52 pc	16/61	6/43 r

Oceania

Auckland	14/57	9/48 pc	15/59	13/55 sh
Sydney	23/73	14/57 pc	22/71	16/61 pc

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THE AMERICAS

Ghost Town, U.S.A., for a While

North Dakotans May Be Away From Flooded Homes for Weeks

By Dirk Johnson
New York Times Service

GRAND FORKS, North Dakota — As most of the last diehards fled from this unlivable city, struck by both flood and fire, residents have begun coming to grips with the knowledge that it may be weeks before they can return.

The supply of drinking water has run out here, and the sewage, oil and animal carcasses fouling the flood waters have prompted fears of disease.

And to give this battered region the feel of a plague, a fire added to the misery during the weekend. At least six buildings were destroyed as the fire damaged parts of three downtown blocks. Its cause is still unknown. "It's a ghost town," said Clint Blomquist as he headed out of Grand Forks in a red pickup truck, giving a lift to other refugees: two women and a 5-year-old boy. "It's devastating."

In what is being called a 500-year flood, the river rose to more than 53 feet (16 meters) on Sunday, nearly twice the flood stage. The National Weather Service predicted that the river would crest Monday at about 54 feet and stay at that level for about a week.

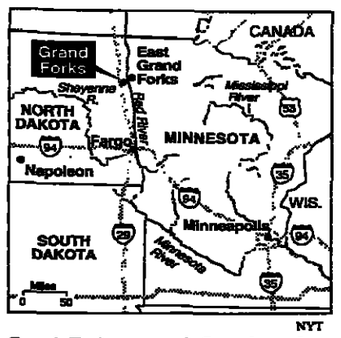
Water has flowed into more than 70 percent of Grand Forks, a city of roughly 10 square miles, or about 26 square kilometers. Mayor Pat Owens has urged all of the city's 50,000 residents to evacuate. An air force base west of town is being used as a shelter. More than 3,000 people fleeing the flood have checked into the base.

The flooding was even more extensive in East Grand Forks, across the border in Minnesota, where nearly the entire town of more than 8,500 people was flooded.

Patients at the only hospital in Grand Forks, United Hospital, were transferred to other medical centers because of a shortage of clean drinking water. The evacuation began Saturday, and the last patients were moved out Sunday.

As of Sunday, there were no reports of serious injuries or deaths related to the flooding. The fire in downtown Grand Forks erupted Saturday afternoon. The water was so deep in the streets that fire trucks could not get to the burning buildings at first.

The fire was tamed Sunday as helicopters dropped water on it and two fire trucks reached the area on giant flatbeds.



NYT

New Rules Shield Clinton From Party and Foreigners

By Alison Mitchell
New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — Faced with criticism of the National Security Council in several campaign finance controversies, Samuel Berger, President Bill Clinton's national security adviser, is instituting new rules to limit the Democratic National Committee's access to his staff and to screen foreign visitors to the White House.

In an interview, Mr. Berger defended his staff and insisted that the National Security Council had always made its foreign policy recommendations on their merits and not for campaign purposes. He praised his predecessor, Anthony Lake, for setting "the right tone."

But acknowledging that management problems had existed inside the council that analyzes foreign policy options for the president, he said, "What I want to do is take that tone and build a system around it so there is clarity with respect to procedures."

Mr. Berger's new policies come after weeks of reports that the security council staff was not consulted about the propriety of the president's meetings with some foreign visitors connected to Democratic donors, and that its warnings in other cases were not heeded.

To avoid what Mr. Berger described as "ad hoc-ism," he said that he was outlining a clear chain of command for screening foreigners invited to visit Mr. Clinton or other White House officials.

Requests for background checks from domestic offices in the White House, he said, would be relayed from the White House chief of staff through Brigadier General Donald Kerrick, the deputy who oversees operations for the National Security Council, at least 72 hours before any visit.

The council's recommendations would then be sent back to the domestic side of the White House through the same chain of command, to protect any classified information from being improperly released.

But Mr. Berger said that the National Security Council would continue to have only advisory power, not veto power. "We do not have a staff to be a police force," he said.

He added that another deputy, James Steinberg, would be the only person on the national security staff allowed to have contact with the Democratic National Committee. He said that the party would not be banned completely from making inquiries to the National Security Council because "there may be a legitimate need for information" on the president's policy positions.

Because of reports that donors received access to the National Security Council, Mr. Berger said that he planned to tell his staff members that meetings with people outside the government must be judged on whether they are useful in making policy or useful in explaining policy and building support for it. The goal, he said, is to "insulate the NSC from partisan political considerations but not isolate the NSC from the world."

Mr. Berger said he had instructed his senior directors not to accept briefings from outside agencies that are offered under the condition that the information cannot be given to their superiors.

Mr. Berger's moves would bring the screening of visitors in line with that of previous administrations, but would not go as far as the kind of controls instituted by Zbigniew Brzezinski, national security adviser to President Jimmy Carter, who said he required each of his senior staff members at day's end to send him a one-page summary of the day's activities.

Paul Hosefros/The New York Times

Samuel Berger, national security adviser, wants to end 'ad-hocism' in the chain of command for screening visitors.

POLITICAL NOTES

Second Thoughts From the President

WASHINGTON — In the weeks after last year's election, President Bill Clinton publicly maintained that the furor over his fund-raising tactics had not cost him a Democratic Congress. "I'm absolutely certain it didn't have anything to do with winning the House back," he said.

Yet in private, the president harbored second thoughts, according to a new book that chronicles the 1996 elections. Disappointed by a re-election victory that failed to garner a majority of the popular vote or recapture either chamber in Congress, Mr. Clinton came to regret his own strategy of ignoring the finance issue in the campaign's final days, according to the book, "Whatever It Takes," by Elizabeth Drew.

"The question the president asks now is should we have done television to respond to that in the last moments, because he feels we paid a price for that at the end of the election," Ms. Drew quotes an unidentified White House aide as saying. The president, the aide said, concluded that the controversy depressed Democratic turnout in key races and "that a strong response would have helped more than it hurt."

President Clinton has plenty of reasons to rue that decision. The same fund-raising questions he tried to duck during the campaign are now being asked by House Republicans with subpoena powers. *(WP)*

More China Dollars

WASHINGTON — Federal investigators tracing the movement of hundreds of thousands of dollars from mainland China into California banks suspect it came directly from the Communist government and went partly to the campaigns of California politicians, Newsweek reported.

The magazine said the focus of the investigation was Ted Sioeng, an Indonesian businessman living in Los Angeles who donated $250,000 to the Democratic National Committee at the behest of John Huang, a friend and key figure in the controversy over special donations to the party. Mr. Sioeng also reportedly contributed $50,000 to the California state treasurer, Matt Fong, a Republican running for the U.S. Senate.

Mr. Sioeng owns a Chinese-language newspaper in Los Angeles that he switched from a pro-Taiwan posture to a pro-Beijing orientation after purchasing it last year.

The report said funds were wired from China in late 1994 or early 1995 into an Asian-owned bank in Los Angeles where the Chinese Consulate has its accounts. *(AP)*

Medicare Harmony

WASHINGTON — After being criticized by his own party for giving up too much, too soon in budget talks with Congress, President Bill Clinton has won an endorsement from the House minority leader, Richard Gephardt, for a key component of his new budget offer: further cuts in Medicare spending.

"It looks like we can make that work," Mr. Gephardt, Democrat of Missouri, said of Mr. Clinton's proposal to reduce the growth in Medicare spending by another $18 billion over five years. "But when you get beyond that figure you are then getting into really hurting Medicare."

With the additional $18 billion in cuts, Mr. Clinton is proposing to cut about $100 billion from the growth in Medicare spending over five years. The cuts would come from reducing payments to doctors, hospitals, skilled nursing facilities and other health care providers. *(WP)*

Quote / Unquote

President Clinton criticizing Senate Republicans for holding up confirmation of his choice of Alexis Herman as labor secretary: "You know, I don't refuse to work with them because they won the election. I know they wouldn't have voted for me — and that goes two ways." *(WP)*

Away From Politics

• **James Earl Ray, who has terminal liver disease,** was transferred from a prison medical wing to a hospital in Nashville, Tennessee, a hospital spokesman said. Mr. Ray, 68, is serving 99 years in prison for the 1968 assassination of Martin Luther King Jr. He confessed but recanted three days later and has been seeking a new trial ever since. *(AP)*

• **An off-duty Chicago police officer was convicted** of shooting a homeless man who approached him for money carrying only a bucket and a rag. After six hours of deliberation, the jury found Gregory Becker guilty of armed violence, involuntary manslaughter and three counts of official misconduct. Sentencing was not immediately scheduled. Mr. Becker faces at least 15 years in prison on the armed violence charge. *(AP)*

• **A 14-year-old boy was killed** after being thrown from an amusement park ride, and two other teenagers were critically injured when a car on The Wildcat ride at Bell's Amusement Park in Tulsa, Oklahoma, slid down the track as it was being pulled to the top and collided with the car behind it. *(AP)*

AMERICAN TOPICS

Pentagon Plans Virtual Military Training

In the latest blurring of reality and its virtual version, the U.S. Marine Corps has enlisted a Massachusetts software company to design a video game that can be used for military training — or for home entertainment.

"It's the first time the Department of Defense has worked with a game producer to design a game from scratch," said Warren Katz of Mak Technologies Inc., the software company that won the $800,000 contract.

The world's military organizations have used computer simulations for years. But the lower costs and soaring power of personal computers, led the Pentagon s to adopt this new approach, The Boston Globe reports.

With the new programs, troops will spend more time using simulation software on ordinary desktop computers linked in networks. The trigger-happy teens who buy somewhat less detailed civilian versions will bear much of the cost of software development.

Skeptics say they hope video-trained soldiers will not forget, in battle, that pushing those little buttons and triggers on their weaponry can have real-life results.

Short Takes

The federal government probably had no idea of the uproar it would cause when it ordered in 1974 that new toilets use no more than 1.6 gallons (6 liters) of water per flush, less than half the standard 3.5 gallons. Homeowners say the new models do not get the job done — with the frequent result being a double or, heaven forbid, triple flush. But manufacturers have wasted no time in developing new technologies, reports Popular Science. Some systems use compressed air. But that makes a Poseidon-Adventure-like sound, and can cost $200 more than other designs. A newer one relies on a partial vacuum to boost flow rate, and keeps price and noisedown.

To fight false alarms, the New York Fire Department plans to install cameras in or near its fire alarm boxes. So as to allay concerns of snooping, the cameras will be used only when people report emergencies. "It is not a Big Brother watching system," a department spokesman said.

Two girls at a high school in Ambridge, Pennsylvania, near Pittsburgh, who wanted to wear pantsuits for their induction to the National Honor Society were blocked from taking part in the ceremony. The mother of one of the girls called the ruling a throwback to less-enlightened times. Her daughter, she said, "was supposed to be honored for her scholarship, character, service and leadership," adding, "She was not recognized for her clothing."

International Herald Tribune

Wreckage in Rockies Appears to Be From Missing Warplane

By James Brooke
New York Times Service

EVERGREEN, Colorado — Apparently ending a military mystery that bedeviled the U.S. Air Force for almost three weeks, searchers have spotted what they believe is the metal wreckage of a warplane that vanished into the thin air of the Colorado Rockies on April 2.

"It is our collective judgment that what we have seen is likely to be A-10 aircraft pieces," Major General Nels Running said Sunday from the search base in Eagle, 100 miles (160 kilometers) west of here. General Running is deputy commander of the missing pilot's home unit, 12th Air Force at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base in Tucson, Arizona.

The search is to resume when a helicopter that can withstand high winds arrives from Washington state with the search crew. Weather permitting, teams will be sent to positively identify the gray and yellow metal parts sighted Sunday on a "sheer face" near the summit of a 12,467-foot mountain, midway between Aspen and Vail. There was no sign of the pilot, the general said.

It now appears that the pilot, Captain Craig Button, a 32-year-old native of Long Island, left a training exercise on the Arizona-Mexico border, flew 800 miles northeast, and then crashed into a ridge of New York Mountain.

For almost three weeks, the disappearance of the $9 million plane and its pilot, Captain Button, embarrassed the air force and fueled wild conspiracy theories on the Internet.

As Americans pondered the mystery, the air force scoured the Colorado Rockies with technology that ran from satellites with infrared cameras to explosives experts with metal detectors who hiked into the backcountry.

Radar images were provided by U-2 and SR-71 high-altitude spy planes. In about 400 sorties, spotters with binoculars studied the area from Uh-1H "Huey" helicopters, C-130 cargo planes and Cessna flights flown by volunteers from the Civil Air Patrol.

On the ground, seismic sensors were studied for traces of the impact of the plane, which was carrying four 500-pound bombs.

But the 19-day search was repeatedly hindered by the same blizzards that prompted the nearby Vail ski area to extend its season.

On Saturday, air force officials distributed photographs of previous crashes of A-10 Thunderbolts, which showed fields of small metal parts. No engines or large pieces of fuselage remained after impact.

Meanwhile, conspiracy theories flourished on the Internet. To disprove theories that the warplane had been stolen, the air force double-checked about 140 small airports and landing strips in a 75-mile swath along the missing plane's flight path.

Finding the wreckage is not likely to resolve the central mystery about whether the crash was an accident or suicide. A-10 planes do not carry the "black box" flight recorders that help to determine the causes of crashes of civilian passenger jets.

According to the accident theory, Captain Button might have suffered from hypoxia, or oxygen deprivation. He left his training formation minutes after a midair refueling, and jet fumes could have accumulated in the cockpit, causing a lack of oxygen and disorientation.

Critics of this theory say that the pilot left his formation while flying at 6,500 feet, and then managed to thread his way into the high Rockies, crashing into a 12,467-foot mountain.

After the captain's disappearance, a senior air force official in Washington had said that the pilot had appeared despondent after a visit from his parents in March, and that his mother had recently adopted an anti-war religion.

Albright Buzzes America With a Diplomatic Offensive

By Thomas W. Lippman
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — Madeleine Albright, the most media-savvy secretary of state since Henry Kissinger in the 1970s, was putting her message on the air.

Shortly before 10 A.M. Friday, she gave a televised interview to John Lomax of WKRC in Cincinnati to urge Senate approval of a treaty banning poison gas weapons, calling the accord "good for the American people."

Seven minutes later, she gave virtually the same interview to Steve Gullien of WBRC-TV in Birmingham, Alabama. Next in line was WMC-TV in Memphis. Then came a local station in San Antonio, followed by San Diego, Seattle and Denver.

In just over an hour, Mrs. Albright reached untold thousands of Americans with the clear-cut, simply worded message that the Chemical Weapons Convention is good for them and that the Senate should approve it when it votes Thursday. She did it without leaving her chair in a commercial television studio in downtown Washington, where the State Department had purchased satellite time to get her image and message out to the nation.

The event was more political campaign than diplomacy, and in many ways it was typical of how Mrs. Albright has operated during her first three months in office. She has said repeatedly that one of her highest priorities is to convince Americans that foreign policy matters, and she is using techniques never before seen at the State Department.

So far, Mrs. Albright has made more trips within the United States than overseas, addressed more Americans than foreigners and sought offbeat channels of communications to reach new audiences. In addition to the usual Sunday television talk shows — she was on NBC's "Meet the Press" and again pushed the chemical weapons treaty — Mrs. Albright has appeared on CNN's "Larry King Live" and National Public Radio's "Diane Rehm Show." For her only solo foreign trip so far, she opted to give a seat on her plane to Fox Television rather than Agence France-Presse.

Her ratings in some opinion polls have soared so high that former President Gerald Ford last week called her "the Tiger Woods of foreign policy," as she recalled with relish in a brief interview.

"Having me out there talking in very plain language on an issue that is important has its own value," she said, "but also it projects the fact that American foreign policy can affect their lives."

"I think we'll have a payoff for this in Senate approval of the chemical weapons treaty," she added, "but we'll have a larger payoff in terms of people understanding what it is we do."

Like a political campaigner delivering the same simple, catchy message at every stop, Mrs. Albright ignored the nuances of the chemical weapons issue in favor of broad, easily digested language that might prompt listeners to call their members of Congress: "This is a treaty that has 'Made in the U.S.A.' written all over it."

"People will wonder what's the matter with us," she argued, if the Senate fails to ratify an arms control agreement that "was initiated by President Reagan, signed under President Bush and embraced by President Clinton. We thought this treaty up!"

Mrs. Albright likes to say that when she became a diplomat, "I had all my partisan instincts surgically removed." Whether these efforts will produce the desired results is still "the million-dollar question," one of her senior aides said last week.

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India's Political Winds Buffet the Gandhi Cap

Congress Sidelined as South Gains Clout

By Kenneth J. Cooper
Washington Post Service

NEW DELHI — This month, India faced a choice for prime minister between two senior politicians, both 77, old enough to have fought for independence from Britain and to have spent decades in the Congress Party, which ruled for most of the last 50 years.

One favors the kind of white cotton cap that Mohandas K. Gandhi wore in his long walk to freedom, while the other often dons Western-style business suits.

The politician who does not wear a Gandhi cap and no longer belongs to the

NEWS ANALYSIS

Congress Party, Inder. K. Gujral, prevailed, ending three weeks of political uncertainty.

The man who engineered the ouster of former Prime Minister H. D. Deve Gowda, the Congress leader, Sitaram Kesri, had to be satisfied with watching as President Shankar Sharma conducted the swearing-in ceremony at his official residence.

The failure of Mr. Kesri's power play and Mr. Gujral's emergence as leader of the governing coalition signifies the political change under way in the world's largest democracy. The Congress Party has declined to its lowest strength in 545-member directly elected house of Parliament, but no single party has so far occupied the vacuum in India's difficult transition to more competitive politics.

"The new approach in Indian politics is to have coalition governments," said Chandrababu Naidu, coordinator of the governing United Front. "Coalition governments are here to stay."

The present coalition represents sizable constituencies that have abandoned Congress, disaffected by corruption and the party's failure to serve their interests. Small parties from the south and far northeast feel Congress governments have neglected their regions and favored northern India. Lower castes, more predominant in the south, have complained that their living conditions have not improved enough.

"Congress has failed to recognize that power has traveled from the upper classes, the upper castes, the richer sections down to the people in villages, to intermediate castes, to people at the very bottom of the social ladder," said former Finance Minister P. Chidambaram, once a Congress member.

Some political analysts have described the current political fragmentation in India as threatening to unravel the world's most socially complex nation, which was previously held together by a strong central government. Others have contended that the change represents a democraticizing trend, with the lower-caste Hindus, more than 70 percent of India's 950 million people, asserting themselves and overturning what could be considered minority rule by upper-caste Brahmans, who make up less than 5 percent of the population.

When the United Front was formed a year ago, coalition partners selected Mr. Gowda, a southerner and middle-caste farmer, to become prime minister. At least half the members of his cabinet, which Mr. Gujral has largely retained, were from lower castes or religious minorities.

P. Ravicendran/Agence France-Presse

Inder K. Gujral, left, greeting the Congress (I) Party leader, Sitaram Kesri, after Mr. Gujral was sworn in as prime minister. He vowed to support "social justice," shorthand for advancing the interests of lower castes.

As a northerner and a member of the warrior caste, the second highest after Brahmans in Hinduism's traditional hierarchy of religious and social standing, Mr. Gujral's background does not reflect his coalition's demographic leanings. But in his first public remarks Saturday after being made the coalition's leader, he vowed to stand for "social justice" — in India, shorthand for advancing the interests of lower castes.

Mr. Kesri failed in his bid to form a Congress-led coalition and become prime minister because no parties in the United Front were willing to defect. The Congress Party dropped its power grab rather than face an election, agreeing to back Mr. Gujral's government on a vote of confidence scheduled for Tuesday.

In justifying withdrawing support from Mr. Gowda three weeks ago, Mr. Kesri accused him of being anti-Congress because his government had conducted corruption investigations against Congress members. Virtual one-party rule by Congress has been accompanied in the last two decades with a public perception of increased corruption, the issue Congress insiders have blamed most for their defeat in last year's election.

But some Congress dissidents have contended that alleged corruption is not the party's only problem and that it badly needs a political makeover, with a new image, a forward-looking message and perhaps a leader from a new generation.

Since the 1991 assassination of Rajiv Gandhi, the party has adopted a sort of seniority system that has elevated septuagenarians like Mr. Kesri and former Prime Minister P. V. Narasimha Rao, who have at times appeared out of touch. Mr. Kesri, for instance, continues to wear a Gandhi cap that has gone out of style and lost its power as a symbol of the founding father's virtues.

In popular movies, the white cap has instead come to identify a dishonest politician — suggesting how much the image of the Congress Party has changed since independence in 1947.

North Korea Skips Another N.Y. Session

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — North Korea kept U.S. and South Korean negotiators waiting Monday, apparently offering no clues to whether it was ready to accept their proposal for peace talks.

Members of the three delegations talked for three hours Sunday night in New York, where the North Koreans reportedly repeated their demand for massive food aid as a condition for four-way peace talks with South Korea, the United States and China.

The United States refuses to link food aid to North Korean acceptance; South Korea wants the North to accept the peace talks first.

The three delegations talked Wednesday, and U.S. and South Korean officials said they expected to hear the North's decision on peace talks then. But no answer came, and the North Koreans never showed for scheduled sessions Friday and Saturday at a Manhattan hotel. The North Koreans said they were waiting for instructions from their government.

In Seoul, the highest-ranking defector ever from North Korea was settling in Monday after arriving in on Sunday.

Although Seoul acknowledges it plans to press Hwang Jang Yop for information about North Korea, South Koreans said they do not expect tensions over the defection to interfere with the New York talks.

INDIA: *New Prime Minister Plans to Make Better Relations With Pakistan a Priority*

Continued from Page 1

thatan effort to improve relations with Pakistan would be one of his main priorities. Borrowing from a phrase made famous in the speech made at the moment of independence in 1947 by Jawaharlal Nehru, India's first prime minister, Mr. Gujral said after his election as party leader, "We have to formulate another tryst with destiny," including an effort to create more neighborly relations with Pakistan.

Mr. Gujral also pledged to attack the political corruption that is endemic in India. And he promised a renewed effort to tackle the problems of poverty, illiteracy and disease that have kept India close to the bottom of many tables that rate the progress of developing nations. In a nation with 950 million people, 350 million of whom are officially considered as living in poverty, pledges to ease deprivation and to crack down on a pervasive political culture of kickbacks and nepotism and graft have been part of every prime minister's mantra.

But promising to improve relations with Pakistan is by no means so obvious a step. That is especially true for a leader who, in Mr. Gujral's case, will confront a political opposition led by the Bharatiya Janata Party, a rightist Hindu chauvinist group. The Hindu party has advanced steadily in recent elections with policies that harp on the need for vigilance against Pakistan and on the rights of India's Hindu majority to fashion a country that does not "bow its knee" to the minority of 120-million Indian Muslims.

The first test for Mr. Gujral's approach is likely to come in mid-May, at a regional meeting in the Maldive Islands, where the Indian prime minister is scheduled to meet separately with Pakistan's new prime minister, Nawaz Sharif.

As foreign minister, Mr. Gujral laid the groundwork for reduction of tensions with Pakistan by unilaterally easing travel and visa restrictions for Pakistanis visiting India.

Whether Mr. Gujral can overcome obstacles that have embittered relations with Pakistan, notably over Kashmir, is widely doubted in India. But assessments of Mr. Gujral that filled the pages of Indian newspapers in recent days emphasized aspects of his character that suggest he might be more willing than some of his predecessors to break new ground by taking an independent stand, even at risk his own career.

One example was Mr. Gujral's experiences in 1975 with Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, Mr. Nehru's daughter, after she declared an emergency, suspending civil liberties and arresting thousands of political opponents. Mr. Gujral, who had been a key member of Mrs. Gandhi's "kitchen cabinet" during her early years as prime minister, was her information minister at the time. He rejected a demand by Mrs. Gandhi's son, Sanjay, that he be allowed to censor the news bulletins of All-India Radio.

In response, Mr. Gujral was forced out of the cabinet and named ambassador to Moscow. He later joined anti-Gandhi dissidents from the Congress Party in forming the Janata Party, forerunner of the party that dominates the United Front, the Janata Dal.

Before joining the Congress Party, which led India to independence, Mr. Gujral was a member of India's underground Communist Party, which was strongly linked to the Soviet Union.

■ **Gujral Vows to Speed Reforms**

Mr. Gujral took the oath of office at the presidential palace and pledged to speed up the pace of economic reforms. His pledge was answered by a stock market surge that saw share prices in Bombay close almost three percent higher on the day. Mr. Gujral said: "Even though there is a change in the government there will be no change in policy or framework of economic reforms. Our political parties may be weak or strong but the system is strong."

Meanwhile, four ministers who served under Mr. Deve Gowda, including the highly regarded finance minister, Palaniappan Chidambaram, boycotted the new government following their party's acrimonious battle for the United Front leadership. Front officials, however, said Mr. Gujral would try to lure Mr. Chidambaram back into the finance department.

TROOPS: *As Chinese Soldiers Arrive, Hong Kong Is on Guard*

Continued from Page 1

carousing in karaoke clubs, bars or restaurants and will be prohibited from moonlighting or gambling, according to Chinese officials.

Unlike his British counterparts, the Chinese senior general in the territory will earn only 1,200 yuan ($145) per month, a sum that covers an evening meal for four at a midrange restaurant.

The People's Liberation Army, though poorly paid, is heavily involved in businesses in China — from manufacturing dolls to vehicles, from controlling major drug companies to selling Baskin-Robbins ice cream. Although it contends that its division here will not engage in business, there is some concern in Hong Kong that the temptations of commerce will overcome the formality of prohibition.

Last year, as Chinese troops began training for their duties in Hong Kong, Major General Liu Zhenwu, who ultimately will command the 10,000 troops expected — more than three times the number of British troops that had been based here — said that his men would attend classes to "learn about discipline and loyalty to the party." He added, "The classes are primarily to define and ensure their political correctness."

But Martin Lee, the leader of Hong Kong's Democratic Party, which has been critical of the Chinese approach to resuming sovereignty, offered a word of caution about the arrival of the first contingent of Chinese troops.

"I don't think Hong Kong people would feel too happy about the stationing of troops," said Mr. Lee, who met with President Bill Clinton last week to express his concerns about Hong Kong's future under Chinese rule. "But I hope they would follow their orders strictly."

The 40 Chinese officers and men arrived in Hong Kong on Monday to begin preparing for the arrival of the full contingent, which will occupy 14 military sites throughout the territory.

As the Chinese soldiers arrived at the Prince of Wales barracks, British troops snapped salutes.

"We were told to salute," a British soldier said. "Normally we wouldn't."

While the brief welcome ceremony took place, the sound of cranes and bulldozers filling in yet more of the Hong Kong harbor rumbled across the parade ground. A construction worker watched the horde of reporters and the abrupt arrival of the Chinese convoy.

"I don't really have anything to say," he said. "We really don't know yet what they will do."

BRIEFLY

New Clashes Erupt In Java Before Vote

JAKARTA — New political violence hit the Indonesian province of Central Java, just days before the campaign for general elections in May starts officially, news reports and residents said.

The Jakarta Post newspaper on Monday quoted sources as saying one person was injured in a village in Temanggung, south of the provincial capital, Semarang, in a fight Saturday between villagers and supporters of the Muslim-oriented United Development Party.

In nearby Pekalongan, residents said two people were injured when about 300 United Development Party supporters attacked the office of the assistant regent Sunday. The reason for the attack was not immediately clear.

Local government officials said the incidents were minor, and the police said the situation was calm and under control. *(Reuters)*

Vietnam Assails Voice of America

HANOI — The Communist Party newspaper assailed the Voice of America radio station Monday for its report on Hanoi's plans to rekindle revolutionary fervor through construction of a new north-south expressway.

"The allegations and distortions, aimed at causing disunity and suspicion, cannot sway the will of each and every Vietnamese person who loves the country and socialism," the official daily Nhan Dan said.

The commentary also took the U.S. station to task for claiming that the project, whose cost has been put at about $5.5 billion, would be achieved through a compulsory labor program. *(Reuters)*

Japan Opposition Wins Governorship

TOKYO — The governing party has lost a gubernatorial election in northeastern Japan for the first time in more than four decades.

An independent, Sukeshiro Terata, 56, backed by the opposition New Frontier Party and three other parties, on Sunday became the new governor of Akita Prefecture, 450 kilometers (280 miles) north of Tokyo.

The election is a major victory for the New Frontier Party, which has been dealing with intense infighting since losing seats in an election last year for Parliament's more powerful lower house.

The election was held after Governor Kikuji Sasaki resigned to take responsibility for dubious spending by prefectural government officials of more than 900 million yen ($7.2 million) on food and travel. *(AP)*

Sri Lanka Rebels Kill 12 Soldiers

COLOMBO — Tamil Tiger rebels ambushed an army patrol in eastern Batticaloa District on Monday, killing 12 Sri Lankan soldiers, military officials said.

A military spokesman confirmed the attack but said he was unable to give casualty figures immediately.

Casualties among the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam rebels were not known, military officials said. The rebels seek an independent homeland for minority Tamils in the north and east. *(Reuters)*

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EUROPE

With Foes Feuding, Milosevic Regains Stride and Shores Up His Rule

By Chris Hedges
New York Times Service

BELGRADE — President Slobodan Milosevic of Serbia, the Balkans' wiliest political escape artist, appears once again to have defied the expectations of his opponents and reasserted his grip on power.

Mr. Milosevic, who was knocked off stride by months of protests by the political opposition, is now moving to limit criticism of himself by the independent news media. He has sidelined those who were disloyal to him in his moment of weakness and appointed a longtime loyalist as chairman of the electoral commission.

He has capitalized on disarray in the ranks of the opposition, which began squabbling almost immediately after they took power in many of Serbia's largest cities.

And, to the consternation of his critics, he is preparing to run for the Yugoslav presidency. The post is now largely ceremonial. But many in Serbia believe that Mr. Milosevic will maintain his sweeping powers if he is elected by the federal Parliament, which is dominated by members of his Socialist Party.

Yugoslavia is made up of Montenegro and Serbia, and Serbia's constitution bars Mr. Milosevic from serving a third term in Serbia.

The heady excitement of the daily street marches, called after Mr. Milosevic nullified opposition victories in November in several large cities, including Belgrade, has dissipated in the smoggy, slate-colored skies that hover over the capital.

"We failed as a people, as a country," said Miomir Brkic, the editor in chief of the independent daily Nasa Borba. "We should have formed a movement during the street protests to build a united, nonpartisan front to fight for a democratic, parliamentary system.

"Instead we followed politicians who lacked vision, who cared only for power and who now spend their time bickering among themselves like street vendors. We have a terrible deficit of leaders."

To be sure, Mr. Milosevic is weaker than he was a year ago. He has lost his top security chief, Radovan Stojicic, who was assassinated this month in a gangland-style shooting while sitting with his son in a Belgrade restaurant. The killers and their motive remain unclear.

He is also locked in a bitter battle to remove the Montenegrin prime minister, Milo Djukanovic, who has called on him to step down.

And with salaries and pensions often paid months late, if at all, and state-run industry at a standstill, the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank have not renewed Yugoslavia's memberships nor granted the country a special concession to attract foreign investment.

"Milosevic has capitalized on the disarray within the coalition," said Stojan Cerovic, a columnist for Vreme, an independent magazine.

"But he has not recovered his power completely. The assassination of Radovan Stojicic, the leader of Milosevic's praetorian guard, was an assault on Milosevic and his inner circle. It sent an ominous message to Milosevic, that no one is safe anymore, and it signaled to those around Milosevic that they could not count on being protected. Things are still falling apart."

Mr. Milosevic, a former Communist, has been one of the leading voices of Serbian nationalism in the region, and his government supported Serbian rebels in Croatia and Bosnia through years of brutal warfare.

His artfully timed concessions have allowed him to survive two significant rounds of public protest. The first, in 1992, arose after security forces violently repressed an opposition march. This year, after months of demonstrations and concerted international pressure, Mr. Milosevic allowed the opposition to move into the city hall in Belgrade and other cities.

Afterward, he dismissed the head of state television, reshuffled the cabinet and proposed legislation on the news media that would make it possible for the government to impose hefty fines on its critics. The bill is now before Parliament.

Mr. Milosevic's best ally has turned out to be the fractious coalition Zajedno, which led the street protests this winter. The two principal leaders in the three-party coalition, Zoran Djindjic and Vuk Draskovic, have been feuding over who will run for the presidency of Serbia. Elections are expected later this year.

The daily barbs fly through the press, with Mr. Djindjic, now the mayor of Belgrade, dismissing Mr. Draskovic's candidacy for the presidency by saying the coalition cannot afford to "run a frog in a horse race."

Mr. Draskovic has attacked Mr. Djindjic for holding at least one secret meeting with Mr. Milosevic during the protests and denying at the time that it took place.

In this disarray, Mr. Milosevic has proposed the law making it illegal to criticize the president and other senior officials. He has also signed a cooperation agreement with the leadership of the Bosnian Serbs. His alleged abandonment of them was a point of attack by the opposition.

Mr. Milosevic also has shuffled the government to strengthen his grip on power. The president's wife, Mirjana Markovic, who heads a party in coalition with the governing Socialists and who is unpopular, has disappeared from public view.

Meanwhile, the opposition spends its fury on itself. The state-controlled press trumpets every new disagreement, while calling opposition leaders "Serb traitors on foreign payrolls."

Mr. Brkic, the editor, said, "Milosevic is like a vampire, surviving off the blood of his enemies."

For his part, Mr. Draskovic has mounted a campaign to restore the Serbian monarchy, picking one of the most divisive issues within Serbia. He also proposed naming the street in front of Mr. Milosevic's house after Draza Mihajlovic, the Serbian royalist commander who in World War II fought the Germans as well as the partisans, and was later executed by Tito.

Blair Pledges Fresh Start for Britain in EU Negotiations

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

MANCHESTER — Just 10 days before the general election on May 1, the opposition leader, Tony Blair, used his only set-piece foreign policy speech of the campaign on Monday to argue that the Labour Party alone can stand up for Britain's interests overseas.

He also spurned his opponent's offer of advice on European Union negotiations if he wins.

"I will not take lessons on how to negotiate from this textbook of incompetence written by the prime minister," Mr. Blair said at a campaign meeting after Prime Minister John Major offered confidential advice.

The rebuff was the latest humiliation for Mr. Major, whose party is trailing by around 17 points in polls.

Mr. Major has depicted himself as the bulwark against an erosion of British sovereignty, both under a new EU treaty to be completed in mid-June, and a single European currency, due to start in 1999.

Mr. Blair, in his speech in the northern city of Manchester, said: "To negotiate well you have to have respect from those with whom you are negotiating. If you don't, you fail. And if you have neither the respect of those with whom you negotiate nor those on whose behalf you are negotiating, you fail abjectly. That is Mr. Major's position."

Mr. Major has accused Mr. Blair of surrendering his negotiating position in advance of the EU summit meeting in June in Amsterdam and of stifling dissent in his own party with "Stalinist" tactics.

Sticking to his message that only he was experienced enough to negotiate for Britain, Mr. Major said that Europe was "becoming more centralist and all Conservatives oppose that centralized Europe and support our membership of a Europe of nation-states."

He shrugged off the polls on Monday, telling a London news conference: "This election is there to be won, of that I have not a shadow of doubt, and I believe we are going to win it."

Mr. Major's gamble on making Europe a big election issue has highlighted divisions over Europe within his 22-member cabinet, provoking media speculation that his closest aides are already jostling to succeed him if he leads the party to defeat.

Over the weekend, Home Secretary Michael Howard said the new EU treaty could threaten Britain's future as a nation-state. The chancellor of the Exchequer, Kenneth Clarke, who is Mr. Major's pro-European treasury minister, contradicted Mr. Howard.

The Conservatives and Labour are both uncommitted on the euro, and both promise a referendum before any decision to join the common currency, but Mr. Blair adopts a more conciliatory tone toward the EU.

In Manchester, Mr. Blair accused the Tories of "a narrow, crabbed nationalism."

"It is a natural reaction to insecurity and fear in a changed world, but it leads nowhere," he said. "It is not a real or lasting answer to the changes, which, for better or for worse, are going on around us."

He also could not resist a stream of withering personal invective.

He called Mr. Major's negotiating of the crisis over "mad cow" disease "a textbook of incompetence" and said it was an "undignified spectacle" for a prime minister to have to try to stop his party from falling apart in the middle of an election.

Mr. Blair promised a fresh start in Europe and said the policy of perpetual isolation followed by the Conservatives since 1979 was misguided. He said he would stand up firmly for Britain's interests and was prepared to stand alone if necessary.

On the question of the single currency, Mr. Blair repeated that he saw formidable obstacles to first-wave entry and was skeptical about the chances of Britain doing so any time in the next five years. *(Reuters, AP)*

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Business Message Center
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Agence France-Presse

Frost and Drought Both Plague Europe

Alain Robert/Reuters

Winegrowers in the south of France were counting their losses Monday after freezing temperatures destroyed large sections of their crop of grapes for rosé wine. Dry, warm conditions ripened grapes earlier than usual this year, leaving them more susceptible to cold. Michel Rieu, right, a wine producer, inspects the damage in his vineyard in Suze la Rousse. In Belgium, however, the weather that everybody is talking about but nobody is doing anything about is drought. Fire fighters, above, have been battling brush and grass blazes in the region near the Dutch border. Widespread European drought is attributable to record-low rainfalls.

Bulgarian Victors Seek Support for Economic Plan

Reuters

SOFIA — The Union of Democratic Forces, which won a big parliamentary majority in elections Saturday, said it would meet other parties Tuesday to seek their support for its program to lead Bulgaria out of economic crisis.

The party leader, Ivan Kostov, said Monday that his priorities were carrying out reforms sought by the International Monetary Fund; fighting organized crime and corruption; opening secret police files on public figures, and bringing Bulgaria into the European Union and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

"We are proposing that the newly formed Parliament pass an anti-crisis declaration, and tomorrow we start talks with the other main forces for agreement on its principles," Mr. Kostov said at a news conference.

With all but a handful of results counted, the electoral commission said the Union of Democratic Forces had 137 seats in the 240-seat assembly to the Socialists' 57.

Three smaller parties will also enter Parliament.

Mr. Kostov said he hoped the agreement would include the Socialists, who were driven out of power in February.

"I think dialogue with the Socialist Party is possible; after all, its current leadership helped resolve the January crisis and signed the declaration for support for the actions of the caretaker government," he said.

Asked about a formal coalition, he said various options would be considered. "Anyway, I am optimistic that in the course of the talks we shall find the formula of the agreement in the name of the country's future," he said.

The Union's National Executive Bureau meets Thursday and is expected to nominate Mr. Kostov as prime minister and decide on the makeup of the cabinet.

Deputy Prime Minister Alexander Bozhkov is expected to retain the trade portfolio, overseeing the restructuring of the state sector.

Economic Policy Minister Krassimir Angarski is expected to take the finance portfolio, and Bogomil Bonev is expected to continue his campaign against organized crime and corruption at the Interior Ministry.

The first task of the new Parliament will be to pass a 1997 budget and a package of banking laws needed to create a currency board, which is required by the IMF as a condition for $657 million in financing.

Other crucial steps the new government must take are privatizing and restructuring the state sector; freeing prices and trade rules, and providing an investor-friendly legal climate to aid a swift transition to a market economy.

Bulgarian Brady bonds rose sharply on the secondary debt market on reports of the Union's victory. An outlook report from Banque Nationale de Paris said the bonds could outperform the global Brady index under a currency board.

The combination of falling inflation with a strengthening currency underpinned by fiscal adjustments and industrial restructuring was ideal for bond investors, the report said.

The lev, the national currency, traded lower on the interbank market on Monday, but Finance Minister Svetoslav Gavriiski attributed that to speculation, saying traders were buying dollars in anticipation of the lev's fall.

$2 Million Political Gift an Irish Bombshell

By James F. Clarity
New York Times Service

DUBLIN — The former chief executive and part-owner of Ireland's largest department store chain told a government tribunal Monday that he had provided about $2 million for the use of a former prime minister, Charles Haughey.

The businessman, Ben Dunne, the former chief of Dunnes Stores, told the tribunal that he made four payments intended for Mr. Haughey between 1988 and 1991 and that he was told the money was to help Mr. Haughey overcome a personal business problem.

Mr. Haughey, who was prime minister three times for a total of eight years ending in 1992, has said nothing, not even whether he will appear before the tribunal if, as expected, he is subpoenaed.

Tribunal officials said there had been no allegations that any donations were illegal. Ireland has no law limiting contributions to politicians, but gifts are subject to tax.

Newspaper and television reporters have traced the money to bank accounts in the Cayman Islands, but have not confirmed that any money reached Mr. Haughey.

The disclosure has thrown Irish national politics into turmoil as Mr. Haughey's party, Fianna Fail, now the leading opposition party in Parliament, is preparing to challenge the coalition government of Prime Minister John Bruton, the head of the Fine Gael party, in a national election campaign.

Ireland has no law limiting contributions to politicians, but gifts are subject to tax.

The Fianna Fail leader, Bertie Ahern, said he feared that Mr. Bruton would set the election date soon in an effort to take advantage of the negative effect of disclosures about Mr. Haughey.

The tribunal is also expected to hear testimony that Mr. Bruton's party received about $280,000 from Dunnes and that his coalition partner, the Labor Party of Foreign Minister Dick Spring, received about $22,000.

A Fine Gael minister, Michael Lowry, resigned in December after it was disclosed that he received at least $300,000 from Dunnes to build a wing on his house. This disclosure prompted Mr. Ahern's party to demand a tribunal to investigate.

The government agreed and then, to the chagrin of his party, allegations about donations to Mr. Haughey began to be heard.

Since he was forced out by his own party in 1992, Mr. Haughey, 71, has lived the life of a country squire, yachtsman and owner of thoroughbred horses.

He is also a member of the Council of State, which advises President Mary Robinson on constitutional issues.

During his career, Mr. Haughey's critics and some journalists often questioned how a man who spent virtually his entire adult life as an elected official on relatively modest salaries was able to become obviously wealthy.

BRIEFLY

Chernomyrdin Says Opposition To NATO Will Not Change

PRAGUE — Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin of Russia said Monday that a pact between Russia and NATO could be signed on May 27 but that Moscow's opposition to the eastward expansion of the alliance would not change.

North Atlantic Treaty Organization officials earlier said a new round of talks between Secretary-General Javier Solana Madariaga and the Russian foreign minister, Yevgeni Primakov, aimed at overcoming remaining Russian objections, had been set for May 6 in Luxembourg.

After talks here with the Czech prime minister, Vaclav Klaus, Mr. Chernomyrdin was asked at a news conference if the deal could be signed on May 27, as stated by President Boris Yeltsin last week. He replied: "If the president said the 27th, that means it will be ready on the 27th. As for NATO expansion, we will be against it even after that."

"It is not a question of NATO," Mr. Chernomyrdin said. "We are talking about the military components of NATO. We should not allow new divisions to appear in Europe, new blocs. That is why we are today against the expansion of NATO." *(Reuters)*

Russia Denies Reported Theft Of Nuclear Warheads in Urals

MOSCOW — Russian officials said Monday that Moscow had never had any atomic warheads stolen and dismissed a claim by a Russian disarmament expert who told a German newspaper that drunken workmen took two nuclear warheads in 1993.

"This is really idiotic," said Nikolai Yegorov, Russia's deputy atomic energy minister. "I have never heard anything more idiotic."

Sunday's Frankfurter Allgemeine quoted a Russian nuclear expert, Vladimir Orlov, as saying two drunken workers stole two warheads from a Urals factory on a bet in 1993 and hid them in a garage in a residential area.

It quoted Mr. Orlov, head of the Moscow Institute for Security and Politics, as saying it was the first time a nuclear weapon had been stolen. Mr. Yegorov dismissed the report and said no nuclear warheads had ever been stolen. *(Reuters)*

Kohl's Party Fails to Agree On Plan for Naturalization

BONN — Chancellor Helmut Kohl's Christian Democrats failed to agree Monday on a plan that would have offered German nationality to the children of immigrants.

The proposal would have conceded for the first time that German nationality is not just a matter of blood lines and can be acquired by being born in Germany.

Younger members of Mr. Kohl's CDU have proposed giving dual nationality to immigrants' children born in Germany, but making them choose at maturity between German citizenship and that of their parents' country. But the plan has hit stubborn opposition from older CDU members and above all from the Christian Social Union, the Christian Democrats' Bavarian sister party.

The CDU general secretary, Peter Hintze, said the leadership had agreed only that "better integration of foreigners should not be reduced to the issue of dual nationality." *(Reuters)*

Italian Farmers Demonstrate In Brussels for More Subsidies

LUXEMBOURG — Thousands of Italian farmers on Monday protested outside a meeting of European Union farm ministers here, demanding higher subsidies for agricultural exports.

Between 7,000 and 10,000 farmers demonstrated for the right to produce more milk, and demanded better protection from cheaper Mediterranean produce. The demonstration was organized by Italian labor groups.

Farmers demanded an increase of 600,000 metric tons in Italy's annual milk quota of 9.9 million tons, according to Carlo Gottero, vice president of the National Confederation of Direct Farmers. *(AP)*

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INTER·CONTINENTAL
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Aid Workers in Albania Wonder Why They Need UN Troops

As First of 6,000 Soldiers Begin Patrols, 'Not a Single Incident' Has Been Noted

By Mike O'Connor
New York Times Service

TIRANA, Albania — About half of the 6,000 foreign soldiers being sent here with United Nations backing are setting up camp and beginning patrols, but there is confusion about what else they are to do.

Ostensibly, the soldiers are to ensure that aid sent to Albanians is not hijacked by armed gangs, which have roamed the country since January, when several fraudulent investment schemes collapsed and thousands lost their life savings.

But the two relief agencies in charge of distributing the food are not sure the soldiers will be much help. In the last month the Red Cross has distributed more than 40 tons of food and 15 tons of medical supplies across the country, and has found the task much easier than expected.

"We've had not a single incident," said Nina Winquist-Galbe, a Red Cross spokeswoman. "There's nowhere we have not been able to go."

Hundreds of thousands of civilians still have guns and ammunition that they were given by the government or that they looted from the military. But as the World Food Program workers began to distribute food this week, they did not plan for a military escort.

"They can come if they want," said Jean-Marie Boucher, the World Food Program manager for the Balkans. "We would not be impolite."

The soldiers, led by the Italian Army and including troops from France, Spain, Greece, Turkey, Romania, Austria and Denmark, say they are needed so hungry people can be fed. "We are here to escort humanitarian aid to the hungry," said Colonel Paolo Bianchi of the Italian Army. "That is our first, our main goal."

It turns out, according to the Red Cross and the Word Food Program, that there are very few hungry people, and no one is starving.

"Despite the chaos in the government, the markets are open, food is being imported through regular commercial channels," Mr. Boucher said. "We have a real problem for some people who were very poor before the chaos and who now need some help short term."

The World Food Program, a UN agency, says 140,000 families need one donation each of about 100 pounds (40 kilograms) of flour, a large bag of beans and some cooking oil.

That, Mr. Boucher said, will get them through until the harvest in July. He predicted distribution could take about a month. The troops are expected to be here for three months.

The Red Cross says Albanians who need food the most are those in hospitals, orphanages and homes for the elderly, where almost all the food used to come from the government.

Normal deliveries to these institutions have been severely interrupted, Red Cross officials say.

Asked why the countries say their soldiers are needed, Mr. Boucher replied, "The only way they could get their coming here approved by the United Nations was to say it was for humanitarian assistance."

That foreign soldiers are spreading across the country for any reason has made many Albanians suspicious. Though mistrustful of their own government and grateful for outside authority, Albanians, who have been ruled or dominated by neighbor countries for much of their history, are cynical enough to believe that the impulse to do good is not the reason other countries send in their armies.

Perhaps the most common explanation offered by Albanians is that the Italian and Greek governments want to stop the outpouring of refugees to their countries.

"The Italians have found a reason for coming here since they were Romans," said a dockworker in Durres last week. As he spoke, two ships were unloading sacks of food; five foreign ships were stationed nearby.

Many Albanians say some countries sending soldiers are eager to show that their armies can work in coordination with other European forces.

But French officers insisted that their mission was solely humanitarian. They said they believed that just the announcement last month that foreign soldiers would be coming had calmed Albania and made the delivery of food easier.

■ Bridgehead Secured

Heavily armed Italian and Greek troops swept into the southern port city of Vlore on Monday, securing a key bridgehead into Albania in a coordinated show of force, Reuters reported.

Nearly a week after soldiers from the multinational security force arrived and secured two other key ports of entry, Italian and Greek troops drove into Vlore early Monday as Italian marines rushed ashore after arriving by sea.

About 30 Italian tanks and armored personnel carriers splashed onto the beaches near the port after landing craft brought them close to shore from a transport ship anchored outside the port.

Some 160 Italian marines leaped off their launches and hovercraft. With their rifles at a ready position, the soldiers immediately began searching buildings near the port, where the air was tense as sporadic gunfire sounded in the distance.

"Everything went well," said General Girolamo Giglio of the Italian Army.

Vlore and much of southern Albania have been controlled by rebel committees since February.

Alessandro Bianchi/Agence France-Presse

Italian soldiers paddling their dinghies ashore Monday at the port of Vlore in the south of Albania as part of a coordinated land and sea effort by UN troops to secure a bridgehead. Officers termed the operation a success.

Argentina Gets Praise For Opening A Dark Haven

By Calvin Sims
New York Times Service

BUENOS AIRES — Long criticized for harboring Nazi war criminals, Argentina is now winning praise from some Jewish groups for its efforts to track down Nazis who came here after World War II and to locate stolen assets they may have brought with them.

Ruben Beraja, a prominent Argentine Jew who is a member of the Volcker Committee, which is investigating Nazi gold deposits in Europe, said the government of President Carlos Saul Menem deserved credit for helping bring Nazi war criminals to justice and uncovering their booty.

"This government wants to make a clear break with the Argentina of the past, which is seen as having been pro-Nazi, or a haven to Nazism," Mr. Beraja said. "Mr. Menem has assured me of his personal support and that of his administration that we investigate this issue to the very end and to let him know if we have any problems."

Rabbi Marvin Hier, dean of the Los Angeles-based Simon Wiesenthal Center, which is devoted to exposing Nazi war criminals, said Argentina needed to put more "punch" into its investigations, but he applauded the Menem government for taking the initial steps.

Such praise comes at a time when many European countries have come under sharp criticism for refusing to cooperate with Jewish groups and international commissions that are seeking to locate gold, bank deposits, property, art and other assets that the Nazis are believed to have stolen from Jews during the war.

Since he took office in 1990, Mr. Menem has sought to distance himself from past Argentine governments, including that of Juan Peron, that welcomed scores of Nazis fleeing Europe after World War II and sheltered them from prosecution.

In 1992, Mr. Menem announced that Argentina was "paying its debt to humanity" by releasing all secret files on Nazis who fled here after the war. After studying hundreds of thousands of pages of documents, investigators said they had uncovered over 1,000 names of suspected Nazi war criminals who found refuge in Argentina, many times more than had previously been documented.

In 1995, the government approved the extradition to Italy of Erich Priebke, a former SS captain who lived in Bariloche, an Andean resort town, for 50 years and admitted taking part in the killings of 335 Italian civilians, many of whom were Jews. Mr. Priebke is on trial in Italy for war crimes.

Last year, the Argentine government provided investigators with bank records that may help them track down transfers of gold, cash and art to Argentina by Nazi agents. On Thursday, Mr. Menem announced the creation of an international truth committee to ensure that investigators have access to all the information they need.

"We are taking these steps because we want to satisfy our debt to society for the sins that Argentina committed in accepting the Nazis after the war," Foreign Minister Guido di Tella said. "We are also taking these steps because Argentina has become a multiethnic, multicultural society and we owe it to our Jewish citizens to set the record straight."

So far government bank records have not shown exactly what assets the Nazis brought to Argentina, leading local Jewish investigators to conclude that Argentina, like Spain and Portugal, may have been a transit route for looted assets. "Argentina didn't offer the kind of political and economic stability that would have made it attractive for this money to stay, but it might have laundered it," said Mr. Beraja, who is the vice president of the World Jewish Congress.

An initial review of government bank records shows that in 1943 Argentina received about $150 million from German companies like Krupp and Thyssen that transferred the money legally to Argentine companies.

"Even if the money had not been looted from Jews, it does make the point about the kind of relationship that Argentina had with Nazi Germany, and it's important for people to know this," Mr. Beraja said.

The Menem government's efforts to break with Argentina's pro-Nazi past have often been undermined by attacks on local Jewish targets in recent years. The attacks have fueled the perception that Argentina remains a country hostile to Jews.

U.S. University Loses Appeal Over Equality

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — In a closely watched dispute over sexual equality, the Supreme Court on Monday let stand rulings that Brown University illegally discriminated against its female athletes.

The justices, without comment, rejected an appeal in which the Ivy League school's lawyers said lower court rulings could require schools nationwide to offer varsity opportunities for women based on a "stark numerical quota."

The dispute over women's sports dates from 1991, when Brown imposed university-wide budget cuts. The school, which then funded 16 varsity sports for men and 16 for women, cut off financing for four teams — men's golf and water polo and women's gymnastics and volleyball.

The move affected 37 men and 23 women. Some of those women sued, contending that Brown had violated a 1972 law known as Title IX. The law, credited by many with changing the face of women's sports and societal attitudes about women, bans discrimination in education based on sex.

In other actions, the court:

- Turned down the government's effort to force Texaco to pay at least $1 billion more in taxes on Saudi Arabian oil it sold between 1979 and 1981. The court rejected the government's argument that Texaco can be taxed on profits earned by its foreign subsidiaries because of below-market pricing of Saudi oil.
- Rejected appeals by six Branch Davidians who were convicted in the shoot-out that began the 1993 standoff at the cult's compound near Waco, Texas.
- Ruled in an Arizona case that parents cannot sue states to force them into overall compliance with a federal child-support enforcement program.
- Refused to free ABC television from a $1 million libel award over a news report on a Georgia county's troubles with its garbage-recycling machine.

Le Pen Faces Suit for Repeating 'Detail'

Anti-Racist Group Condemns Gas Chamber Comment

Reuters

PARIS — An anti-racist group said Monday that it would sue the French far-right leader Jean-Marie Le Pen for saying gas chambers had nothing to do with anti-Semitism and repeating that they were a mere detail of World War II.

France's Movement Against Racism said Mr. Le Pen's comment, in an interview for the U.S. news magazine The New Yorker, was part of "a deliberate strategy of inciting racial hatred."

The movement "solemnly requires the justice minister to start legal proceedings against Jean-Marie Le Pen," it said. "For its part it intends to assume its responsibilities by taking court action."

The New Yorker asked Mr. Le Pen about his 1987 comment that Nazi gas chambers were a mere detail in wartime history. His reply was: "The gas chambers have nothing to do with anti-Semitism. When I say that the gas chambers are a detail of the history of the second world war, it's obvious.

"If you take a book on the second world war of a thousand pages, you will have four pages on deportation, and on these four pages you have six lines on the gas chambers."

Mr. Le Pen was taken to court in France over his 1987 statement and ordered to pay heavy damages to war victims' groups.

Henri Hadjenberg, president of the Council of French Jewish Institutions, French Jewry's umbrella organization, said he hoped Mr. Le Pen would be prosecuted over his latest comments.

"We condemn this new provocation and hope the French justice system will itself initiate legal action on this provocation," Mr. Hadjenberg told French radio.

He also voiced outrage at a comparison Mr. Le Pen made between Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu of Israel and Hitler. "If it's national and patriotic ideology that is the basis of Nazism, then Netanyahu is a super-Hitler," Mr. Le Pen said.

FRANCE: *Elections Are Called*

Continued from Page 1

French people in the name of the euro. The government's economic policy had failed, he said, denouncing the "Anglo-Saxon and inegalitarian" economic model that Mr. Chirac seemed to be steering toward and calling on the voters to elect him prime minister instead.

Over the last two years, Mr. Chirac has not managed to convince the French people that reducing deficit spending and the burdensome taxes that finance the welfare state would be the best medicine to bring down the country's 12.8 percent unemployment rate.

"Together, we have to reform the state to permit lowering of public expenses, the only way of lightening the taxes and charges that weigh too heavily on jobs," Mr. Chirac said.

His decision cut short discussion by the legislature of a government bill to make it easier for the poor, homeless and unemployed to gain access to state benefits, and may presage further spending freezes, budget cuts and possibly other even more unpopular measures that may explain why he called the election now instead of waiting until the expiration of the legislative term next spring.

Aides said he also acted now to keep French domestic political turmoil out of the decision to start the new European currency, which he hopes will help pull Europe out of economic stagnation.

Mr. Chirac and European leaders will meet next April, when the elections would normally have been held, to decide which countries qualify.

His electoral gamble caught the Socialist and Communist opposition off guard. Mr. Jospin called a meeting April 29 with the Communist leader, Robert Hue, to forge a common line, but the campaign has already begun.

If Mr. Chirac's calculations and the polls are right, he would lock in conservative control of the legislature through the remaining five years of his seven-year term, which began in mid-1995. But if they are wrong, it could mean a rough ride not only for French politics but also for monetary union, with Mr. Jospin as prime minister and a leftist majority in Parliament.

After Mr. Chirac won the presidency, he promised the French people, troubled by double-digit unemployment, "profound change." That, he said during his campaign, meant lower government payroll taxes on employers to encourage them to create jobs, and reduced unemployment. Instead, Mr. Juppe raised income and sales taxes soon after taking office, and joblessness rose.

MARKETS: *Europeans See French Gamble That Could Backfire*

Continued from Page 1

financial markets Monday. The franc, which just last week rode growing optimism about the single currency to a four-year high of 3.3615 to the Deutsche mark, tumbled to 3.3764 to the Deutsche mark late in the day, from 3.3705 at the opening.

Yields on 10-year French government bonds, which rise when the bonds' price fall, edged up to 5.795 percent, from 5.755 percent Friday.

French stocks also dipped, with the CAC-40 index losing nearly 1 percent to finish at 2,522.67, after closing at 2,547.56 Friday.

German officials, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said Mr. Chirac raised the possibility of early elections when he met with Chancellor Helmut Kohl in Bonn two weeks ago.

Some German officials clearly hope the ballot will resolve once and for all France's hesitations about the single currency and the fiscal discipline required for its adoption.

"If it stabilizes French policy in a way that France has a clear agenda for economic and monetary union, it's a good idea," said Elmar Brok, a leading German member of the European Parliament from Mr. Kohl's Christian Democratic Union.

But many Germans questioned whether a conservative victory would lead the French government to adopt tougher austerity measures to meet the Maastricht criteria, especially given that the current government has abandoned social security reforms in the face of protests despite the fact that it holds 80 percent of the seats in Parliament.

"If we had a similar parliamentary majority," an official said, "we wouldn't dream of having early elections."

A victory by the opposition Socialist Party was not expected to lead to an immediate postponement or cancellation of monetary union because the party negotiated the Maastricht treaty and continues to endorse the euro.

The risk, officials said, is that the Socialists will demand conditions — such as a softening of the deficit requirement or the inclusion of southern European countries like Italy and Spain — that make it difficult or impossible for Germany to accept.

Lionel Jospin, the Socialist leader, underscored those fears in a television interview Sunday night.

"If with the jobless rate we have," he said, "we have to impose a new cure of austerity on the country to respect the criterion of 3 percent, my answer is, 'No.'"

The German official asserted that a Socialist victory in France "could put the euro in serious jeopardy."

Philippe Brossard, an economist at ABN Amro in Paris, said: "It's going to raise some tension with the Germans and the Bundesbank. It's going to be a rocky path to economic and monetary union, rather than the soft one if the conservatives win."

Mr. Brossard said the government's odds of winning the elections were no better than 50-50 because of the unprecedented nature of Mr. Chirac's decision.

When French presidents have called early elections in the past, it has been because of a national crisis such as the social protests of May 1968 that had brought the country to a halt. This time, French officials said, Mr. Chirac was acting to avoid a clash between the normal election date of March 1998 and the decision, due in late April or early May next year, on which countries will launch the euro on Jan. 1, 1999.

Mr. Brossard, however, said, "It's not clear why we're having elections."

ISRAEL: *Netanyahu Shores Up Coalition*

Continued from Page 1

leased Sunday night, the nation's two senior prosecutors, Mr. Rubinstein and State Prosecutor Edna Arbel, said they found enough evidence to raise "tangible suspicion" of a corrupt deal in Mr. Netanyahu's appointment of Roni Bar-On as attorney general in January.

But they said they lacked sufficient evidence admissible in court and decided against indictments of Mr. Netanyahu and Mr. Hanegbi.

The prosecutors made clear that they believed the central allegation of the case, which is that three influential figures used connections and threats to induce Mr. Netanyahu to name Mr. Bar-On to the nation's highest law enforcement position in hopes of easing their own legal troubles. But they said they could not prove that unlawful motives were Mr. Netanyahu's only reasons for the choice.

One of the three was Aryeh Deri, a Netanyahu ally who heads the ultra-Orthodox Shas party. Mr. Deri is said to have threatened to topple Mr. Netanyahu by withdrawing his 10 parliamentary seats from the coalition, and prosecutors said they planned to indict him for extortion, fraud and breach of public trust.

Police charges are still pending in the case against Avigdor Lieberman, Mr. Netanyahu's chief of staff.

Prosecutors said Mr. Netanyahu escaped indictment in part because his case, unlike Mr. Deri's, would have required the use of hearsay testimony that is not admissible in court.

That explanation did not satisfy some of Mr. Netanyahu's opponents. "There are too many signs that our prime minister was a partner to a plot," said Yossi Sarid, leader of the leftist Meretz party, who filed one of the Supreme Court appeals Monday. "We can't accept the idea that the Israeli state is being governed by a gang."

Another legal filing Monday, by the Movement for Quality Government, asked the court to remove Mr. Hanegbi and to suspend Mr. Lieberman.

The court has jurisdiction to order indictments and removal of public officials who have not been convicted of crimes.

But it is seldom exercised, and legal commentators generally doubted the court would intervene this time.

■ 5 Palestinians Wounded

Israeli troops wounded five Palestinian demonstrators in the West Bank village of Sourif on Monday, Reuters reported, quoting Palestinians.

They said the clashes broke out when the Israelis sealed off the village and brought in a bulldozer to demolish the home of a resident who was arrested for involvement in attacks on Israelis.

Sourif, in a part of the West Bank still under Israeli control, was the home of a bomber who killed himself and three Israelis in a Tel Aviv cafe last month.

Earlier this month, security forces uncovered an Islamic Hamas cell of six Sourif residents suspected of killing several Israelis in a series of attacks over two years.

Eyal Warshavsky/The Associated Press

Aryeh Deri with a supporter after a prosecutor said he could be indicted.

LONDON: *Threats Bring Traffic Chaos*

Continued from Page 1

evocation of the fighting spirit of Londoners during the wartime Blitz.

On Friday, a small bomb exploded at a railroad station in Leeds, while bomb threats forced the cancellation of many trains across the north of England.

Earlier in the month, coded threats attributed to the IRA forced the closing of some of Britain's most heavily used expressways, while another threat forced the postponement of one of the country's most beloved institutions, the running of the Grand National steeplechase.

The bomb scares Monday were the first to hit London in months. They forced shutdowns of the King's Cross, St. Pancras, Paddington and Charing Cross rail stations, the closing of the entire Jubilee subway line, and the suspension of all operations at Gatwick and at Luton airports. London's busy Heathrow Airport escaped relatively unscathed, with a threat causing only a partial and brief closure of one of its four terminals.

The Channel port of Dover was also briefly closed while police carried out bomb searches after a warning.

Tony Blair, the Labour Party leader, called the bomb threats intolerable.

The Liberal Democrat leader, Paddy Ashdown, whose own campaign bus became ensnared in the traffic jams, lambasted the IRA for turning to what he called "economic terrorism," after the failure of their earlier attempts to coerce Britain into concessions over Northern Ireland.

Some experts called the threats Monday the most costly IRA actions in London since the huge explosion the group set off in the Docklands two years ago.

INTERNATIONAL

Leftist's Run Unnerves Mexico's Main Party

By Sam Dillon
New York Times Service

MEXICO CITY — Cuauhtemoc Cardenas, an early favorite in Mexico City's first mayoral election, heard people at a suburban campaign stop complain the other day of government indifference to local water pollution.

"It flows out of the tap like chocolate," Guadalupe Osorio, a neighborhood activist, told the candidate.

At another rally, Mr. Cardenas heard villagers accuse a ward boss from the governing Institutional Revolutionary Party, or PRI, of purloining local archaeological treasures.

And later, at a meeting in a nearby plaza, hundreds of Cardenas backers drowned out a heckler they believed to be a supporter of the governing party with a chant that resonated off the bell tower of the village chapel: "Kick out the PRI! Kick out the PRI!"

Mr. Cardenas, Mexico's most prominent leftist leader, has been hearing the roar of anti-government crowds all across North America's largest city during the first weeks of an election campaign that is shaping up as a crucial marker in the country's trudge toward democracy.

The winner of the election — until now the mayor was appointed by the president — is expected to immediately become the second most powerful politician in the country.

"People don't want another three or six or 20 years of more-of-the-same," said Mr. Cardenas, who lost presidential bids to Institutional Revolutionary Party candidates in 1988 and 1994. In an interview last week as his convoy moved through remote suburbs where industrial wastelands give way to palm-shaded colonial plazas, he said, "People want change."

Mexico is moving toward national elections July 6 that will be a watershed not only because of the first Mexico City mayoral election, but also because opposition parties have their first credible chance at wresting control of the 500-member Congress from the governing party.

For half a century after Mexico's modern political system was consolidated in the 1920s, successive PRI presidents governed with virtually unchecked powers.

Since the early 1980s, opposition parties have been chipping away, winning hundreds of city and four state governments, but the central institutions of Mexican power have remained in the hands of the Institutional Revolutionary Party.

Recent polls suggest that if the elections were held now, Mr. Cardenas, and his Party of the Democratic Revolution, or PRD, would narrowly win the mayoral election while the Institutional Revolutionary Party would just manage to maintain a majority in Congress.

These prospects have seemed to rattle President Ernesto Zedillo. Last week, he appeared before an assembly of his party to lecture his followers on the need to retain control of the legislature.

The dangers of a defeat for the governing party are obvious: an opposition-controlled Congress could commission the first serious investigations of government corruption and establish oversight committees to monitor the secretive military and the national budget.

"The stakes are extraordinary because the PRI has never had to work with a divided government, and they don't know how," said Federico Estevez, a political scientist.

The loss of Mexico City would be a tremendous blow, Mr. Estevez added, because about 20,000 of the city's more than 60,000 bureaucrats are governing party functionaries and would probably be dismissed by an opposition mayor.

Betting that this kind of shake-up is attractive to the city's residents, both Mr. Cardenas and the other main opposition mayoral candidate, Carlos Castillo Peraza, a former president of the conservative National Action Party, or PAN, have built campaign slogans around the word "change."

In contrast, the governing party and its mayoral candidate, Alfredo del Mazo, a former governor of the state of Mexico, are gambling that Mexicans fear turmoil and will vote for stability.

"It's possible to lose everything, overnight," says a governing party radio advertisement broadcast repeatedly in Mexico City. "Your family, your education, your work, you've achieved it all through effort and experience. The PAN and the PRD offer change, as if by magic. That's not possible and risks all that we have."

Recent polls show Mr. Cardenas to be backed by 32 percent of Mexico City voters, Mr. Castillo by 30 percent and Mr. Del Mazo by 25 percent.

One reason for Mr. Cardenas's early lead is that he is better known than his rivals. The 62-year-old son of General Lazaro Cardenas, the almost mythical Depression-era president who nationalized Mexico's oil fields, Cuauhtemoc Cardenas studied engineering in France and later served as a PRI senator and governor of his home state, Michoacan.

In 1987, he led followers in a breakaway from the PRI, charging that the party had betrayed its revolutionary roots, and the following year ran for president against Carlos Salinas de Gortari. After the balloting, the government halted the count, claiming that election computers had crashed, and later declared Mr. Salinas the victor. But many Mexicans believe Mr. Cardenas won.

During Mr. Cardenas's second presidential run, in 1994, the government prevented him from buying broadcast advertising, and electronic news coverage was uniformly negative.

But now Mr. Cardenas and his party are rising in the polls, and Mr. Cardenas attributed his improving fortunes to relaxation of controls on the media.

"For years they bad-mouthed us and distorted what we were proposing," he said. "But now they're allowing interviews and coverage, and we have possibilities that haven't existed before."

Keith Dannemiller/The New York Times

Cuauhtemoc Cardenas, seeking to be Mexico City's first popularly elected mayor, has been getting an earful of complaints about the governing party's municipal government.

Biju Patnaik, 81, Hero Of India Struggle, Dies

By John F. Burns
New York Times Service

NEW DELHI — Biju Patnaik, one of the most prominent survivors of the generation of Indian leaders who took part in the independence struggle against Britain, died Thursday. He was 81.

The scion of a princely family, Mr. Patnaik twice served as chief minister of Orissa, a state in eastern India with a population of more than 30 million people, from 1961 to 1963, when he was credited with steps that began its industrialization, and again from 1990 to 1995.

But his reputation in India rested less on his political performance than on his exploits as a pilot in the years before and soon after India's independence in 1947.

Enlisting in the Royal Air Force, he combined derring-do on behalf of the British forces fighting the Japanese in Burma with secret missions on behalf of the independence movement.

For dropping political leaflets to Indian soldiers fighting under British command in Burma and flying clandestine missions that carried Congress Party leaders from hideouts across India to secret meetings that charted the independence struggle, he was jailed by the British from 1942 to 1946.

In the decade after independence, he founded an industrial empire in impoverished Orissa and his own air service, later absorbed by Indian Airlines, the state-owned carrier.

All the while, he kept up his flying exploits, winning renown for daredevil flights that carried Indian soldiers into battle in Kashmir in 1947, and with a mission in 1948 in which Mr. Patnaik rescued two Indonesian independence leaders from a hideout in Indonesia and flew them to India, outraging the Dutch who were then ruling Indonesia.

Mr. Patnaik's political career was less successful. His two stints as chief minister of Orissa were dogged by political feuding and accusations of corruption.

In the 1970s, disillusioned with the leadership of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, he broke with the Congress Party, and was one of the many political leaders arrested and imprisoned by Mrs. Gandhi. When she lost the election in 1977, Mr. Patnaik served briefly as steel minister.

Among his survivors is his daughter, the author Gita Mehta.

Mary Rockefeller, 86, Trustee of the YMCA

NEW YORK (NYT) — Mary French Rockefeller, 86, for more than four decades active in promoting leadership opportunities for women, died in New York on Thursday from injuries she suffered in a fall in her Manhattan apartment.

Mrs. Rockefeller was a supporter of the Young Women's Christian Association, where she was an advocate for women throughout the world. She began in 1951 as a member of the national board and in 1988 was elected to the Board of Trustees.

From 1955 to 1973, she was vice chairman and then chairman of the YWCA's International division, and from 1958 to 1964, she was chairman of the organization's World Service Council.

Her husband, Laurance S. Rockefeller, whom she married in 1934, is a grandson of John D. Rockefeller, the founder of Standard Oil.

BRIEFLY

Chechen Leader Remembered

GEKHI-CHU, Russia — Thousands of Chechens gathered in a remote field Monday to commemorate the separatist leader Dzhokar Dudayev on the first anniversary of his death.

The rebel chief was killed by a Russian rocket near this village 30 kilometers (19 miles) southwest of Grozny as he spoke on his satellite telephone.

As General Dudayev's admirers mourned, a bombing raised the specter that the separatists could be taking the independence struggle outside Chechnya. A monument to union between Russia and the autonomous region of Kabardino-Balkaria was slightly damaged in the explosion in the city of Nalchik, 70 kilometers from Chechnya's borders. Chechen had warned of attacks on Russian targets to mark the anniversary. *(Reuters)*

Armenia Battles Its Neighbor

BAKU, Azerbaijan — Azerbaijan and Armenia traded accusations Monday of new cross-border attacks, the worst outburst of violence between the Transcaucasia neighbors in nearly three years.

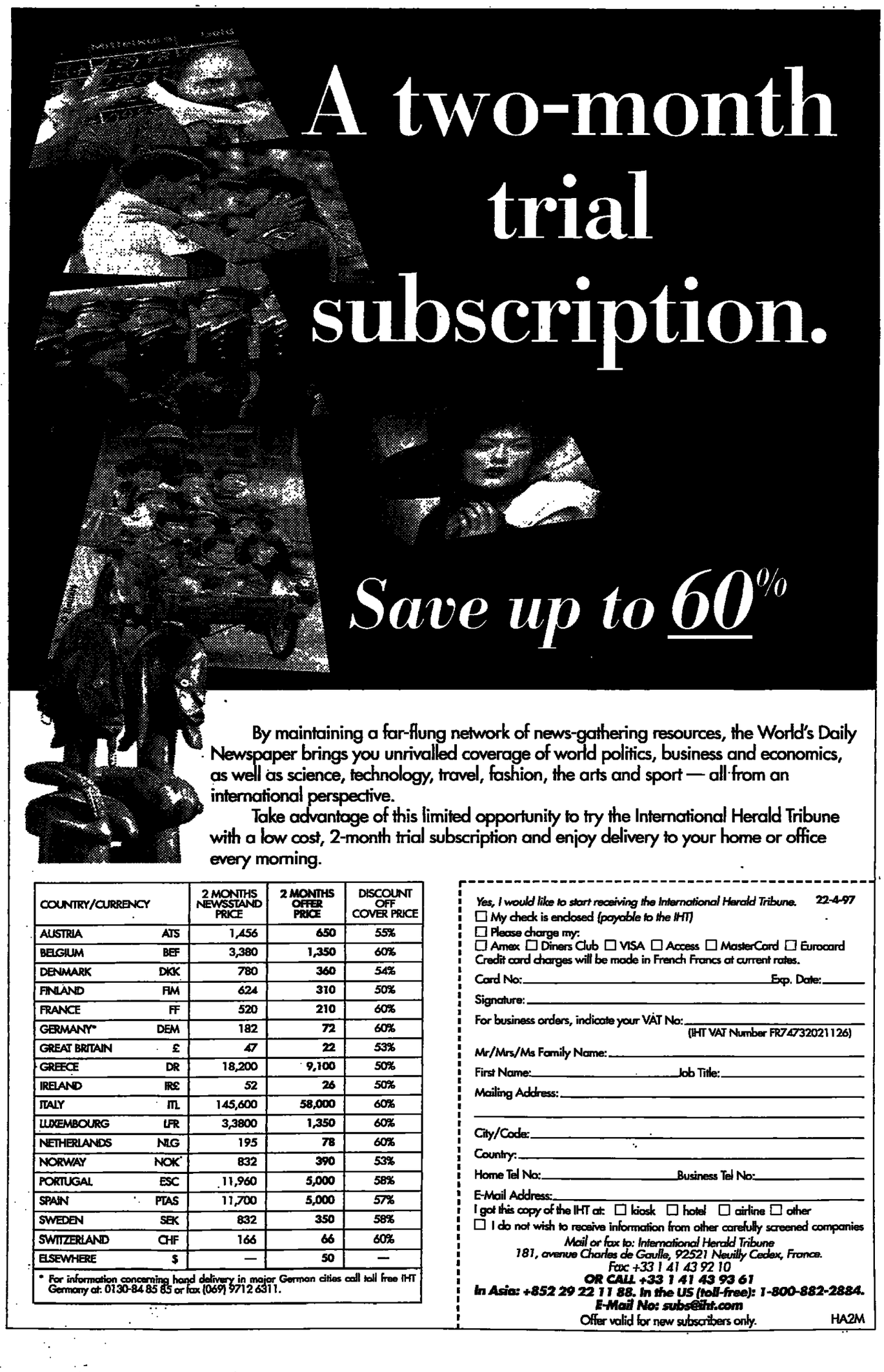
The Azerbaijani Defense Ministry said Armenian troops shelled Azerbaijani positions on the northwestern part of the border late Sunday. "The fire from light weapons continued for 10 minutes before Azerbaijani forces returned fire and silenced the adversary," a ministry statement said.

A Russian news agency, Interfax, quoted the Armenian Defense Ministry as denying making unprovoked attacks, saying Azerbaijanis were striking first. *(Reuters)*

Mexico Ousts Rights Observers

MEXICO CITY — Mexico expelled two observers from the International Federation of Human Rights who were illegally studying the country's civil liberties practices while on tourist visas, officials said.

The observers, Vilma Nunez of Nicaragua and Benjamin Cuellas of El Salvador, had been in the impoverished southern state of Guerrero, officials said Sunday. *(AFP)*



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EDITORIALS/OPINION

Herald INTERNATIONAL Tribune
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State Department

The Clinton administration, having lost control of the issue early on, has now pretty much yielded to Jesse Helms and agreed to consolidate the foreign aid, overseas information and arms control agencies into the State Department, which is itself due to be "reinvented." This development is intended first to secure Senator Helms's forbearance on major foreign policy issues, including the Chemical Weapons Convention and the foreign affairs budget.

The changes, or the process by which they came about, do not make it the Clinton administration's finest hour. Still, it now has a promising opportunity to bring the structures of policy into belated conformity with post-Cold War needs.

The arms control and information agencies are slated to lose their autonomy and be folded directly into the State Department. The two have their indisputable accomplishments and, in small numbers, their partisans, but most people are not going to lose sleep over what they will see as merely a change of boxes.

The arms control function is assured of preservation not by bureaucratic maneuver but by the national interest in restraining the proliferation of weapons, conventional and special.

The government's public diplomacy function already needed thorough review. This is not just because the Cold War is over. We live now in an information age in which the production and conveyance of information is overwhelmingly in private hands.

Some warn that the integrity of officially disseminated information may be compromised if the source — like the Voice of America — moves from a small U.S. Information Agency to the much larger State Department. There are ways — the Voice's charter, professionalism and so on — to allay these fears and avoid the warned-of consequences.

A tougher problem is presented by the Agency for International Development. This is recognized under the proposed reorganization.

The agency would report no longer to the president but to the secretary of state; however, it would remain an independent agency. Whatever the difference, the priority concern ought to be not the box but the mission. How to deal with the tension between the development agency's short-term use as a political tool and its long-term use for the elusive purpose known as development? In a global economy vastly different from the one in which the agency was born, which tasks should be reserved to national aid and which left to the international banks or private agencies?

Mr. Helms's spokesman describes the White House position on reform as a "victory" for his boss. His remark illustrates the partisanship that has made the Senate Foreign Relations Committee chairman rely on political numbers rather than on broad consultation to move his ideas forward. Often he has appeared to be advancing reorganization not to serve the vaunted and everywhere-shared goals of raising efficiency and establishing accountability but simply to ax programs he didn't like.

Not that the protracted battle over reorganization is anywhere near the chairman's sole fault. On this issue the Clinton team never got its act together. The low point surely came when the first-term secretary of state, Warren Christopher, found himself adopting a pro-reform position that in turn 1) Mr. Helms embraced, 2) Vice President Al Gore rejected and 3) Mr. Christopher abandoned. The administration has been playing catch-up ever since.

Mr. Gore's interest remains not just in reorganizing in the Helms sense but in "reinventing government," or streamlining. For this sort of institutional makeover, the State Department is a leading and urgent candidate; its new secretary is at work on it.

The reorganization emerging into public view is in only tentative form. Key obligations remain to be negotiated. This is what gives the administration a chance to recapture the initiative. Give Jesse Helms credit for forcing the issue; he will no doubt insist on remaining in the picture. But Bill Clinton, his vice president and his secretary of state can take the lead in reforming the executive's own house.

—THE WASHINGTON POST.

Jews Asunder

Judaism, like any other religion, has a history of passionately argued theological disputes. But the argument between some Orthodox Jewish groups and non-Orthodox Jews over the role of the chief rabbinate in Israel and what constitutes Judaism is unusually corrosive. It is also dismaying to anyone concerned about Israel and the well-being of the Jewish community. History shows that an absolutist approach by religious groups in a pluralistic country endangers the common bonds holding society together. Israel is the last country in the world that can afford an internal religious schism.

Such a rupture is now threatened because of the drive by some Israeli religious parties to let the chief rabbinate of Israel, which is an instrument of Orthodox Jews, retain exclusive control over marriage, divorce and conversions — and to enlist the power of the government of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to protect that authority. A parallel threat arises from a recent declaration by the Union of Orthodox Rabbis in the United States (a relatively small group even among Orthodox Jews) that adherents of Reform or Conservative Judaism may be Jews by birth but that "their religion is not Judaism."

The Orthodox group's statement sent shock waves throughout the Jewish community in the United States, where most Jews are either Conservative or Reform. Now the chancellor of the Jewish Theological Seminary, the academic center of the Conservative movement, has fired back, calling for the "dismantling" of Israel's chief rabbinate and suggesting that American Jews stop their donations to groups that oppose the recognition of non-Orthodox Jews in Israel.

Rabbi Ismar Schorsch, the chancellor, inflamed passions further by suggesting that the Union of Orthodox Rabbis' intolerance was the kind of philosophy that led a fanatical Jew to murder Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin in 1995. Rabbi Schorsch's comparison was intemperate itself. Orthodox Jews ought to be entitled to their opinion about other Jews whom they regard as straying from the faith, without being accused of fomenting violence.

But the chancellor's overall appeal that there be respect for diversity within a religion was a sensitive response to the problem of religious conflict in many societies, not simply Israel. However passionate or even legitimate are the arguments of theologians on one side or another, Israel is a democracy, and a dictatorial approach by one group or another is bound to deepen divisions rather than respect for religious teachings.

There has always been a tension in Israel between its role as a modern state with civilian authority and the fact that it is also a Jewish state, created expressly for Jews. Under its current setup, the country is less a theocracy than a civil society with an established religion. The chief rabbinate of the Jews has been given the exclusive authority by the state over divorce, marriage, conversions and other matters. Until fairly recently, the chief rabbinate was able to impose its doctrines without making non-Orthodox Jews feel that they were being deprived of their rights. But an influx of Jews from Russia, Ethiopia and other countries — many of whom are adopted or related to Jews through a relative other than the mother — has raised the tensions.

Since Jewish law defines Jewishness through matrilineal descent, Israel demands that these new arrivals convert to Judaism if they want to marry or divorce. Two years ago, the Supreme Court in Israel said that a non-Orthodox conversion would suffice, but now the government wants a new law saying that only an Orthodox conversion will do.

Theological arguments are best carried out by theologians, but it is common sense for Israel to live up to its tradition as a place for all Jews. Attempts to delegitimize co-religionists because they do not follow the practices of the most Orthodox adherents may make perfect sense to some people theologically. But a single-minded pursuit of such an authoritarian approach is a recipe for division and discord at a time when Israeli unity is needed more than ever.

—THE NEW YORK TIMES.

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Israel in the Desert Needs Clear-Sighted Friends

By Thomas L. Friedman

NEW YORK — At sundown this Monday night, Jews around the world were gathering to celebrate Passover and retell the story of the Exodus from Egypt. Exodus was not just about leaving Egypt. It was about coming to Israel and building a Jewish homeland.

More than at any time in its modern history, the meaning of Israel as a Jewish homeland is up for grabs. For friends of Israel, this is no time for a phony unity. This is a time for taking sides. This is a time for using your money, or your pen, or your political clout or your body to make sure you are helping to build an Israel that you would want your own children to live in.

The secular Israeli government has always given the Orthodox parties and rabbinate de facto authority to regulate all religious affairs and conversions in Israel. Reform and Conservative rabbis had no standing. But in 1995 the Israeli Supreme Court opened the way for challenges to the Orthodox monopoly, particularly on conversions.

That was hugely important, because under Israel's Law of Return any Jew is eligible for automatic citizenship. So when the Israeli Supreme Court suggested that Reform and Conservative rabbis in Israel might be able to convert people to Judaism, it was offering them hope of equal religious status with the Orthodox, and an equal set of keys to the gates of Israel.

The Orthodox parties responded by striking a deal with Benjamin Netanyahu: They would support his election, and he would support a new law — which has just passed its first reading in the Knesset — establishing Orthodox rabbis as the only body authorized to perform conversions in Israel, and effectively delegitimizing Reform and Conservative Judaism.

This law, argues the Israeli philosopher Moshe Halbertal, "raises the question of what sort of Israel are we going to have." Will it be "a narrowly defined Jewish state or a broadly defined home for all Jews"?

Given the radical diversity of how Jews relate to their religion — whether they are Conservative, Reform, Modern Orthodox, ultra-Orthodox, Religious-Zionist or secular — Israel cannot be both a home for all Jews and a Jewish state where only the Orthodox stream of Judaism is considered legitimate. "The moment one group uses the coercive power of the state to force a conception of Jewishness on the whole society, it means many other Jews will not feel at home," argues Mr. Halbertal, himself a religious Jew. "In the long run, such a move would destroy both Judaism and the Jewish state.

"Religious rituals observed purely because of coercion are religious rituals that have no meaning and breed resentment. Orthodox Judaism has a proud tradition. It doesn't need coercive state power to appeal to Jews."

What this religious dispute and the political scandal involving Mr. Netanyahu have in common is that they are rooted in a disregard for the balances and red lines necessary to hold Israeli society and world Jewry together.

Mr. Netanyahu escaped indictment, but the attorney general's report made clear that the prime minister and his advisers engaged in some very suspicious behavior.

I fear that in his weakened political state Mr. Netanyahu will only rely more heavily on his core ultranationalist and ultra-Orthodox supporters. This would only widen the splits between Israel's Orthodox parties and the other streams of Judaism, and between those who want to see the peace process advanced and those who want it frozen. Things will get uglier before they get better.

Overlooked in all this legal brouhaha was the fact that Chaim Herzog, the former president, died of a heart attack last week. Or was it a broken heart? He was one of the titans of Israel's history. The son of a great rabbi, he fought the Nazis alongside the British, served as chief of Israel's military intelligence, defended Israel against charges equating Zionism with racism at the United Nations. His passing reminds us how far Israel's leadership elite has fallen since that founding generation. We are in the age of midgets.

That means that all the little people have to stand taller. In the Passover service there is a line repeated each year that reads: In every generation you should feel as though you yourself have gone forth from Egypt [to Israel]. Amen. Every friend of Israel today must help ensure that Israel's uniqueness does not get lost in its current desert of moral and spiritual leadership.

The New York Times.

High Time to Dig Up and Examine the Cambodian Genocide

By Tina Rosenberg

NEW YORK — The faces linger in memory, rows and rows of mug shots taken on entry to the prison, men, women and even small children. The women wear their hair chopped at the neck and are dressed in dark pajamas. Many of the men are bare-chested and draped in a Khmer scarf. Their faces show that they know what is to come.

Sixteen thousand of these people entered Tuol Sleng, the Khmer Rouge's secret police prison, from 1975 to 1979.

There are two places in the world to see the rows of faces today. One is on the walls of Tuol Sleng in Phnom Penh, which is now Cambodia's genocide museum. The other is at www.yale.edu/cgp, the new Web site of Yale's Cambodian Genocide Program, an organization initially financed by the U.S. Congress to gather evidence for international trials of Khmer Rouge leaders.

Cambodia has so far done little to deal with the ravages of the Khmer Rouge, who killed a fifth of the nation's 8 million people. Most of those murdered had their heads bashed in with a hoe to save bullets.

Many of the killing fields do have small monuments. The most prominent, Choeung Ek outside Phnom Penh, has a glass tower filled with skulls and open pits where visitors can see bits of bone and clothing. Choeung Ek was the burial ground for the prisoners of Tuol Sleng.

The prison is a former high school. The classrooms-turned-torture chambers are preserved largely as they were in 1979, with floors still stained with blood. Inmates were Khmer Rouge cadres or soldiers and their families, some the top leaders. Two classrooms upstairs are stuffed with 4,000 confessions that prisoners wrote under months of torture, absurd admissions to spying for various foreign agencies.

Cambodia has had no trials or truth commissions. History books stop at 1960. Post-traumatic stress is epidemic, yet therapy is virtually unknown.

Against this silence, the Cambodian Genocide Program's contributions assume special importance. Researchers discovered documents that appear to establish a chain of command from Pol Pot on down for some of the killings, crucial for convicting top leaders.

The program's Internet site, which may be accessible in Cambodia at the end of the month, will allow people to put names to the photos and read the documents, which include biographies of thousands of Khmer Rouge leaders and records from prison camps.

Program researchers have established a documentation center in Phnom Penh, now run by Cambodians. They are mapping mass graves all over the country. They have run a two-year summer school for lawyers, judges and forensic investigators, complete with a mock trial.

Cambodia's reluctance to deal with the past stems in part from the nature of the Khmer Rouge regime. It murdered not only ethnic minorities but all potential opposition — anyone who questioned, even anyone who wore glasses. When it was overthrown in 1979 by a Vietnamese invasion, few educated Cambodians had survived. Amid such devastation, Cambodians lack the skills and the resources to deal with the past.

The other reason is politics. When the Khmer Rouge were overthrown, they retained a powerful guerrilla army; it is weaker today but still led by an apparently unreformed Pol Pot. Various politicians formed alliances with them against the Vietnamese-backed regime. The government is still trying to lure Khmer Rouge leaders to defect.

In the last two years, Cambodian leaders have increased their calls for an international tribunal to try the top Khmer Rouge leaders, although they have not yet made the needed official request to the United Nations. Polls show that the vast majority of Cambodians support such trials and want the international community to acknowledge their suffering.

There are still obstacles. Cambodia's judicial system, like the rest of its government, is poisoned by venality and inefficiency. The United Nations seems to be suffering tribunal fatigue, and most Khmer Rouge leaders are at large. The United Nations should support an international commission of inquiry, which could lay the foundations for a tribunal.

Even 18 years later, anything that can help Cambodia work through its trauma is welcome.

Doctors in California know of 150 Cambodian refugee women who went blind during the Khmer Rouge regime for no detectable physical reason. They were overwhelmed with pain that they were forbidden even to whisper about. Their minds apparently chose to absorb no more. In a society blocked from expressing its trauma, the body politic can ravage itself as well.

The New York Times.

The West Is Turning Its Back on Opposition Figures in China

By Fred Hiatt

WASHINGTON — Tong Yi is a woman of remarkable courage. In late 1993 and early 1994 she spent a few months working as a research assistant to China's most prominent dissident, Wei Jingsheng. For that, the Chinese authorities threw her, then 26, into a labor camp, where she was beaten and mistreated in other ways. Upon her recent release, she was sent into internal exile in Wuhan.

Patrick Tyler of The New York Times tracked her down there and found that, because police won't reissue her national identity card, she cannot work, and because she has no passport, she cannot travel. "You are an egg, and we are a rock," police officers have warned her.

"You can beat me to death, but I am not afraid," she says she replied. She spoke of a new understanding of Alexander Solzhenitsyn and his writings about the Soviet gulag.

Mr. Solzhenitsyn became a household name in the West, or something close to it, in a way that no Chinese dissident can claim today.

Wei Jingsheng was a leader of China's small democracy movement in 1979, and was thrown in jail until 1993. When freed, he immediately resumed his activism, although malnutrition had cost him his health and many of his teeth. After seven months he was thrown in jail again, and there he remains today.

Why is the Sakharov of China less known and honored elsewhere than was Andrei Sakharov himself?

The Chinese authorities tolerate more pluralism, in some ways, than did the Soviet KGB. More students are permitted to travel abroad, and internal travel is less restricted. The official green light to quasi-capitalism has created spaces for people to lead private lives, relatively untouched by party or politics.

But Chinese officials do not allow even the minimal space for writing or meeting with foreigners, which some Soviet dissidents at times enjoyed. "All public dissent against the party and government was effectively silenced," the U.S. State Department said in its recent annual report on human rights in China. "No dissidents were known to be active at year's end."

Part of the answer in America may be racism, or Eurocentrism or unfamiliarity with Chinese culture. Chinese names are difficult for many Americans. And ethnic Chinese in America are not, on the whole, great advocates for freedom for their brethren in the old country.

Ethnic minorities and captive nations made human rights in the Soviet Union a domestic U.S. political issue — Jews, Lithuanians, Ukrainians, Armenians. In that sense, Chinese dissidents are unlucky that neither Tibetan-Americans nor Uighur-Americans comprise noticeable voting blocs in Chicago, New Jersey or California.

But the biggest difference lies in American perceptions of the two countries: The Soviet Union was the enemy, China is a potential market.

You would never have had so many former cabinet secretaries working for American businesses seeking work in Moscow as top officials now enlisted in the China trade. You might not have tolerated a top American negotiator on Soviet matters weighing business opportunities in the Russian field while still conducting official talks, as the U.S. trade representative's chief China negotiator is now doing.

In those days, too, plenty of people warned that concern for dissidents should not interfere with business, or with the "big questions" of U.S.-Soviet ties. But there also were more statesmen free to speak up for the Sakharovs and Solzhenitsyns — and for a policy that linked trade and human rights.

Former top officials active in China-related businesses no doubt would argue that this formulation is backward — that their arguments against making human rights a key plank of U.S. policy precede and do not result from their financial interests. They do what they do precisely because China is not an enemy; it does not need containing, as did the Soviet Union, but rather as much commercial engagement as possible.

But an active human rights policy makes sense no matter where you think China is headed.

If China is bound to develop into an authoritarian, hegemonistic rival of the United States, then certainly we have nothing to lose by prodding it on human rights. But if, as the engagers maintain — and let us hope they are right — China can evolve into a more democratic, more cooperative, more prosperous nation, then it makes all the more sense to stick up for those Chinese who would push in that direction.

As long as China's dictators can keep Wei Jingsheng in prison at little cost to themselves and their international standing, they will surely keep right on doing so. If a few more outsiders remembered Mr. Wei and Tong Yi, and let the Chinese know that they cared, it might bolster not only the dissidents but also those who would treat them more humanely.

The Washington Post.

Where Is Britain's Blair Headed?

By Anthony Lewis

LONDON — It is a near certainty that Tony Blair will be Britain's next prime minister. So, who is he?

He is 43, educated at private schools and St. John's College, Oxford, a barrister who entered Parliament in 1983, and just 11 years later was elected leader of the Labour Party.

The question is what he stands for. Are there principles for which he will fight as a political leader?

The Labour Party once had strong ideological commitments. It was closely tied to labor unions. It favored public spending on social programs, and high taxes on the well-to-do. Although some in the party objected over the years, nationalization of major industries remained part of Labour's program.

In his three years as leader, Mr. Blair has swept away those commitments. The connection with the unions has been frayed to the breaking point. The nationalization clause has been removed from the party's constitution.

Mr. Blair has promised not to increase taxes during the life of the Parliament to be elected on May 1. He has committed himself to maintaining the overall public spending limits of the present government for the next two years.

It has been an astounding political transformation — and a feat of political leadership. Mr. Blair has kept the old Labour left virtually silent. Prime Minister John Major had it right when he said the other day, "After 18 years in opposition they're prepared to mask their convictions and hold their tongues."

The fact that the Conservatives have been in power for 18 years is Mr. Blair's biggest asset. They are shopworn and tagged with too many examples of corrupt and sleazy behavior. Much of the public thinks it is time for a change.

But Mr. Blair understands that the public is also afraid of change if it means going back to old Labour, tax and spend, union abuses. So what he offers in this election is really a better managed status quo.

That is why many people wonder whether he has any real beliefs. Someone who has known him a long time says: "He's a barrister with a brief. And the brief is power."

He is compared to Bill Clinton. President Clinton called himself a New Democrat; Mr. Blair has renamed his party New Labour. As Mr. Clinton in last year's campaign tried to steal his opponents' clothes, so does Mr. Blair. As Mr. Clinton has cut away at civil liberties in the name of fighting crime, so has Mr. Blair talked of being "tough on crime."

The Clinton parallel may be good election tactics. It is what comes later — governing — that worries some people. David Marquand, a former moderate Labour MP who is principal of Mansfield College, Oxford, is one of the wisest political scholars in the country. Writing in the Times Literary Supplement in London recently he said:

"As the dreadful Clinton experience has shown, improvisation without a governing philosophy to hold it in check can easily degenerate into a shiftless, poll-driven opportunism."

The latest polls show Labour with a lead over the Conservatives ranging from 14 to 19 percentage points. That would mean a majority in the new Parliament of between roughly 80 and 190 seats. Most experts think that the margin will shrink by election day, but no one predicts anything but a Labour victory.

One issue above all will test Mr. Blair's substance. That is Europe. Mr. Major has allowed British opinion to move alarmingly toward isolationism, even toward withdrawal from the European Union. The situation cries out for a leader who will persuade Britons to accept once again the opportunity and the challenge of the European venture.

The New York Times.

IN OUR PAGES: 100, 75 AND 50 YEARS AGO

1897: Old Minstrel Dies

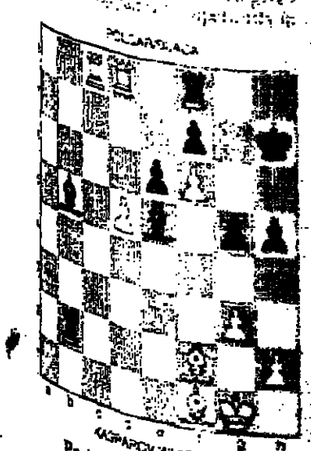
NEW-YORK — "Billy" Birch, the old time negro minstrel, died of paralysis, aged sixty-seven years. He was penniless, although he had made a fortune by making others laugh. From 1844, when he was thirteen years old, until the close of the Old San Francisco Minstrels, Birch was continuously in service. His first appearance was made in the town of New Hartford, where he was born, and during his long career he rarely played what is known professionally as a "white face" part.

1922: Cigar Sensation

PARIS — Paris has had plenty of shocks from tourists. Last night [April 21], while Ciro's was filled to stifling with American visitors, even the waiters gasped when an elderly and matronly woman calmly called for a match, stuck a big black Havana into an amber holder and began to puff contentedly. Later, a blonde added to the excitement by borrowing the cigar from the elderly woman and smoking it to the end. Then, apparently satisfied with the sensation they had caused, both women called for brandy nightcaps before their identity could be learned.

1947: Zionists' Suicide

JERUSALEM — Moshe Barazani and Meir Feinstein, the two Jewish terrorists who were to have been executed today [April 22], committed suicide late last night in Jerusalem Central Prison. "They blew themselves up," a British official said. Last week, Irgun Zvai Leumi launched a campaign against the British with attacks on army personnel and installations in retaliation for the secret execution of Dov Bela Gruner and three others of its members.



هكذا من الأصل

OPINION/LETTERS

It's Time for Americans To Get Out the Atlas

By Jim Hoagland

WASHINGTON — My fellow Americans, you and your neighbors have no doubt been hotly debating whether American troops should promise to die for Ljubljana, Tallinn and Bucharest if need be. No? Don't worry. Your political leaders and their diplomatic advisers are thrashing it out for you. In July, they will let you in on their discussions and decisions, which you then get to pay for and fulfill.

Relatively few Americans can even find the capitals of Slovenia, Estonia and Romania on a map, much less feel comfortable deciding how much U.S. protection these countries need and when they will need it. So the debate over NATO expansion into Central Europe has been limited to America's political and policy-making elites — "the chattering classes," as a State Department memo writer derisively characterized them recently.

That changes in July, when the 16 NATO members gather in Madrid to choose three or more candidate-members and to issue a statement solemnly declaring that the lucky first few will not be the last new members. A new wave of expansion will be decided later.

Even Russian membership in NATO will not be ruled out in that statement, which will be crafted with the intent to lie to the Russians, to the world public and even to the governments making that statement.

The incontrovertible truth that the Madrid summit meeting is obliged to deny is this: NATO with Russia inside its ranks is no longer NATO. Russia joining NATO might bring many wonderful things, but NATO would no longer be the military defensive organization created to prevent or halt an attack on Europe from the Kremlin.

Moreover, major European members of the alliance, led by Germany, have made it clear to Washington privately that they will never permit Russia to join. These Europeans fear that admitting Russia as a full member would create an American-Russian dual hegemony over Europe inside NATO: Yalta II, for short.

The cover for the Madrid deception on Russia is that the future cannot be predicted: NATO and Russia may both change so radically that their military goals will coincide in the future. My view: Russia we can't know about, but we can be sure that the Clinton administration is changing NATO into something new that most Americans will not recognize and possibly not support.

The strategic incoherence that exists at the core of the current NATO expansion strategy has become clearer as the pre-Madrid discussions have degenerated into a numbers game.

Russia has acquiesced to NATO membership for the Czech Republic, Hungary and Poland. But NATO officials are being pushed to take in one or two more in this first wave. The most active candidates are the ex-Yugoslav republic of Slovenia and Romania, which is strongly supported by France.

There is not much real debate over whether these countries qualify for membership: Slovenia clearly does, Romania does only with a stretch. But there is debate over the political meaning of the size of the initial expansion.

Here U.S. diplomacy seems to follow (unconsciously) the Ernest Hemingway theory of work: Always stop writing while you still have something to say. That way you know where you will start the next day.

Slovenia and Romania could be kept waiting as the obvious candidates for an easy second wave of expansion that would not upset Moscow. That would kick down the road once again the thornier question of NATO membership for former Soviet republics such as Estonia, Ukraine and even Russia.

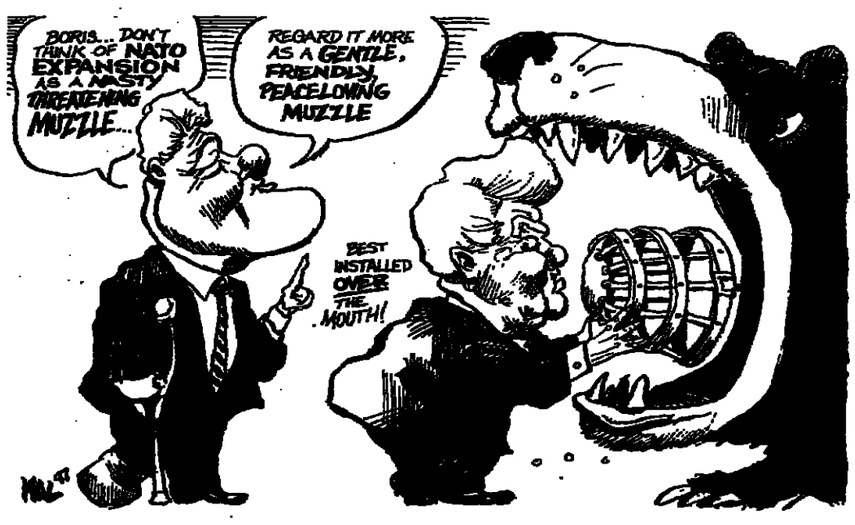
France's strategy may be the opposite: Take in five now, including Romania as a representative of the Balkans, to assure Russia that expansion is a one-shot exercise. That meets Moscow's demand to exclude the Baltics and Ukraine and eases its humiliation over expansion.

This is not Hemingway. This is Alice-in-Wonderland stuff, created by the evasions and inconsistencies of an expansion strategy built on domestic political imperatives. Having reaped the votes of 1996 that were decided by his stand on NATO expansion, President Bill Clinton leaves it to his aides to pick up the pieces at Madrid.

Those aides are already planning a vigorous selling campaign post-Madrid to convince Americans to buy the new improved NATO, through Senate ratification of amendments to the alliance treaty.

That is when you and your neighbors get to gaze at NATO's proposed new borders and decide if you want to guarantee them into perpetuity, or go back on the solemn pledges made in your name by Bill Clinton, Jacques Chirac and the others. By then you will have no other choice. And that will be no accident.

The Washington Post.



Big Issues Drowned Out In the Din of Israeli Life

By Robert B. Goldmann

MOSHAV BENAYA, Israel — Hammers, cranes, hard hats, half-finished highway overpasses, traffic jams, cellular phones, new malls and office parks, Russian mixed with Hebrew and English ...

The political situation that grabs the world's attention can't be felt by the visitor as he is plunged into the fast, loud, trying-to-do-everything-at-once every-

MEANWHILE

day life of Israel. Do Israeli Jews worry less than Jews in America about Israel's fate? It's a question this American Jew thinks about as he detaches himself from the usual political arguments and plunges into the life of the country. Or is he just overwhelmed by the restless enterprise that is building here?

As acquaintances are renewed and old ones made, it becomes clear that there's no way to characterize Israeli Jews' feelings about their country. Talking to a newspaper reporter, the visitor quickly drops back into a familiar conversation about the deterioration of the peace process. Talking to moderately observant Jews, he hears them complain about incursions into their way of life by the minority of ultra-Orthodox Jews. Talking to a police recruiter, he listens to her discuss family, friends and the difficulties of finding qualified job applicants.

Delving deeper into what concerns Israeli Jews, their differences become more evident.

"Netanyahu is killing the peace process" ... "I don't know whether there will ever be real peace, in fact I doubt it, but this guy Netanyahu is making sure there won't be" ... "Don't say anything bad about Bibi, he is doing the right thing. Under Rabin and Peres we would soon have lost the whole country" ... "Why should we trust Arafat any more today than before, when he was killing our children, and don't tell me he is against Hamas, they're all the same."

Hammers, cranes, hard hats, half-finished highway overpasses, traffic jams, cellular phones, new malls and office parks, Russian mixed with Hebrew and English, shawl-covered Hassidim waiting to cross the street as sinning drivers rush by ...

Is the pulse of growth and development affected by these differing Israeli feelings? On a macro scale, probably. But the visitor can't judge macro matters. He can see only what goes on in the streets, or in the stores, where he finds more domestic products than the last time he visited.

It seems that the seemingly insoluble problems in domestic and foreign affairs and what happens at ground level are two different worlds. But not quite. What is more like it is that all Israeli Jews are concerned with these "larger" issues, but with different degrees of intensity.

The academician, journalist, politician, religious leader lives and breathes big issues. The Russian immigrant who has established a successful business is visibly enjoying his success: he has little time to think about politics. The police recruiter comes across as one of those solid, clear-minded people who give both family and job the care and commitment that come naturally to them, and to whom politics are real but far from consuming.

Hammers, cranes, hard hats, half-finished highway overpasses, traffic jams, cellular phones, new malls and office parks, Russian mixed with Hebrew and English, Hassidim trying to keep their distance from teenage girls in tight jeans and those clunky shoes that are the fad the world over ...

Then you remember: Even as arguments rage about the impending breakdown of the peace process, about security, about irreconcilable clashes in the Knesset, even about another war, no one talks any more about the Arabs trying to push Israel into the sea. Somehow, whatever the name of the prime minister or the nature of the governing coalition, something has happened that makes this Passover visit different from all other visits.

Hammers, cranes, hard hats, almost-finished highway overpasses, longer traffic jams, more cellular phones, more malls and office parks ... and the sense that it's here to stay.

The author, who represents the Anti-Defamation League, contributed this comment to the International Herald Tribune.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Vice Squad

Regarding "Clinton's Take on His Crusade Against Vice: It's for the Children" (April 7):

The writer does not sound enthusiastic about what he calls Bill Clinton's "assault on vice." He seems to question the president's motives.

I think Mr. Clinton's actions against the liquor, tobacco and illegal drug industries are most welcome. Statistics show a direct correlation between the use of these addictive substances and many of society's ills: disease, death and crime, to name but a few.

Well done, Mr. President! This liberal supports you all the way.

MARIAN KUHNS.
Bembridge, England.

Regarding "The War on Smugness in the Anti-Drug Fight" (Opinion, April 10) by A.M. Rosenthal:

I am a faithful reader and admirer of Mr. Rosenthal's columns, but he makes a great error in fighting the so-called legalization of drugs.

Drug addiction is a disease and not a crime. It is, medically speaking, almost impossible to stop once you are hooked.

Then, how do you pay for the stuff? There are two main possibilities: prostitution or crime. The latter involves stealing money or becoming a drug dealer, keeping some for yourself and seducing more and more people to become addicts — a vicious cycle that is corrupting America.

Heroin is very cheap; controlled free distribution is the only way to stop the drug war, as the enormous pressure on addicts to clone new addicts will stop, just as the exponential growth of neighborhood crime and worldwide drug cartels will stop.

America needs a surgeon general who understands that drug addiction is a disease, not a crime.

WILLIAM KONIGSBERGER.
Geneva.

Refugee Children

Regarding "Rwanda Refugees: Not Just Victims?" (April 14):

This article about Rwandan refugees in Zaire lends new meaning to the term "deadbeat dads" and turned my stomach.

The writer found a "considerable number of strapping young men who look fit, healthy and well-fed." One of these men said he ate first when his family got food, and his children are wasting away before his eyes.

I can imagine the constraints that aid workers are working under, but there should be an international outcry over the plight of these children. Isn't there some way to see to it that the children are fed first?

MARGARET ANN DOTY.
Griesheim, Germany

BOOKS

RESIDENT ALIEN: The New York Diaries

By Quentin Crisp. 232 pages. $21.95. Alyson

Reviewed by Jonathan Yardley

QUENTIN CRISP is an international treasure. Now in the second half of his ninth decade, Crisp is any number of things, all of them engaging: a writer of witty, lucid books and journalism; an actor in character roles for art-house films; a performance artist whose art is himself; a habitué of whatever level of society happens to present itself to him, whether it be very high or very low; a master practitioner of public relations and self-mocking self promotion; and, underlying all of these, a homosexual who long ago chose to don the most outre raiment as both a bold declaration of his inherent differentness and a shield against the world's cruelties.

Crisp was born in England more than 87 years ago and made his reputation there, but in 1972 — "at an age when most people decide to go into a nursing home" — he fled the chilly, repressed climate of his native land and took up residence on the Lower East Side of Manhattan, "in one room in a rooming house on the same block as a group of Hell's Angels."

Crisp loves Americans, and for reasons that many of his fellow Britons deplore: "their belief that personality is the greatest power on earth," their innocence and openness and naïveté, even their "short attention spans." Many Americans imagine themselves residents of a country where difference and eccentricity are frowned upon, but in Crisp's experience it is the very soul of tolerance. He tells about standing on Third Avenue, dressed in all the outlandish raiment and facial makeup that are his trademarks:

"A black gentleman walked by. When he noticed me, he said, 'Well, my! You've got it all on today.' And he was laughing. In London, people stood with their faces six inches from mine and hissed, 'Who do you think you are?' What a stupid question. It must have been obvious that I didn't think I was anybody else."

All he wants, Crisp says, "is to be accepted by other people without beveling down my individuality to please them." This is by no means an unreasonable request. It is because so many New Yorkers and other Americans have been willing to accept Crisp on his own terms that he has been happy there, if "happy" in his fashion, and it is this mood that permeates these diaries, written between 1990 and 1994. The title is taken both from Crisp's legal status here and from "Resident Alien," a documentary movie about his life in these United States, and obviously refers as well to the "alien" image that has been so essential to his lifelong strategy of self-defense.

For years Crisp has made a big show out of being the most campy gay caricature imaginable; he has gotten a lot of mileage out of it. It is, in fact, a wonderfully subtle and funny act. But there is at its heart what can only be called a deep sadness, which finds expression in various ways.

Crisp is a relic from a bygone age, and the plaintiveness of his comments may not sit well with younger homosexuals whose public efforts are directed at making the rest of us understand how much they are like us instead of how much they differ from us. Yet coming to terms with being different — with feeling oneself an outcast, whatever the reason for it — is a passage through which many people must go, and as a result I suspect that Crisp's intimations of inner anguish will strike familiar notes for others who do not happen to be homosexual.

But to emphasize this poignant side of "Resident Alien" is to misrepresent it, for mostly it is Crisp at his irreverent and witty best. It is a dizzying chronicle of his ceaseless activity: reading, the theater and films, parties, travels, lunches and dinners, television appearances — all of it directed toward maintaining "my shaky hold on the high life."

The famous, the almost-famous and the mercifully obscure pass through these pages in a long procession that turns out to be, at its end, a human comedy of hilarious dimensions. Crisp is at once bemused, dispassionate observer and gleeful participant; "I am never bored," he advises us, "but, because of my great age, I am occasionally exhausted."

Jonathan Yardley is on the staff of The Washington Post.

CHESS

By Robert Byrne

GARRY KASPAROV beat Judit Polgar in Round 9 in the Linares International Tournament.

The Taimanov Variation of the Sicilian Defense, introduced by 4...Nc6, features a restrained, flexible pawn formation that does not yield an early object of attack.

Black has the option of adopting a Scheveningen Variation with 8...d6, but the characteristic Taimanov move, 8...Bb4, hopes to drive White onto the defensive by threatening to win the e4 pawn. The well-tried 9 Na4!? ignores that, ready to quash 9...Ne4 by 10 Nc6 Qc6 11 Nb6 Rb8 12 Qd4 Bf8 13 Bf3 with great positional superiority, no matter what Black plays.

After 11 c4!?, it is still dangerous to take the offered pawn. Thus, 11...Ne4 12 Nc6 bc 13 Qd4 Nf6 14 Nb6 Rb8 15 c5 yields White a promising bind.

After 11...d6 12 f3, the traps of the opening have been bypassed and White has a slight positional advantage.

Polgar could not shake off Kasparov's dominant knight with 16...Nd7 because 17 Nd5! ed 18 cd Nb8 19 dc Nc6 gives White the bishop pair with superiority in space and mobility. But after 16...Qb8 17 b5 Be8 18 a4 Nd7, Polgar got her wished-for exchange of knights with 19 Nd7 Rd7, for otherwise she might have obtained a satisfactory blockade of the queenside with 20...Nc5.

Polgar's 23...ab was an intended piece of cleverness that backfired. She surely looked toward 24 Bg7 b4! 25 Qb2 Ra4 26 Bf8 Qc5 27 Kg2 Bf8, activating two powerful bishops and achieving a grip on the dark squares. And she was getting a bishop and passed pawn for her rook.

But Kasparov crossed her up with a nice pawn sacrifice, 24 cb!, the point being that after 24...Qc3 25 Rc3 Ra4 26 Rc7!, he had to recover his material, establishing an outside passed pawn, while too many black pieces were bottled up on the kingside.

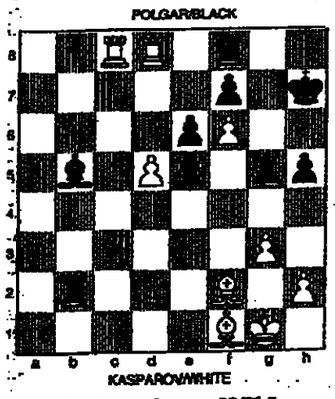
Kasparov was not taken in by Polgar's sly 26...Bg5; he avoided 27...Rd4! 28 Rd4 Be3 by the no-nonsense 27 Bf2.

Kasparov paid no attention to Polgar's 32...g5, but just kept the black kingside pieces in a box with 33 f5!

Polgar's 36...d5 was desperate, but her back-rank situation was untenable.

With 39...Bb5, Polgar was hoping to play on after 40 Rf8 Rb1, but Kasparov spoiled that chance with 40 Bb5! Rd8 41 Bd3, winning a piece. Polgar gave up.

POLGAR/BLACK



KASPAROV/WHITE

Position after ... 39 Bb5

SICILIAN DEFENSE

White Kasp'ov	Black Polgar	White Kasp'ov	Black Polgar
1 e4	c5	21 Rfd1	Rd8
2 Nf3	e6	22 Bd4	Ra8
3 d4	cd	23 Qc3	ab
4 Nd4	Nc6	24 cb	Qc3
5 Nc3	Qc7	25 Rc3	Ra4
6 Be2	a6	26 Rc7	Bg5
7 0-0	Nf6	27 Bf2	b6
8 Be3	Bb4	28 Rb7	Ra2
9 Na4	Bd6	29 Bf1	Rb2
10 g3	Be7	30 f4	Bf6
11 c4	d6	31 Rb6	Bc3
12 f3	Bd7	32 Rb7	g5
13 Rc1	0-0	33 f5	Bb4
14 Nc5	Bc6	34 f6	h5
15 Nb6	Rad8	35 Rc1	Kh7
16 b4	Qb8	36 Rb6	d5
17 b5	Be8	37 ed	Bd6
18 a4	Nd7	38 Rd8	Be5
19 Nd7	Rd7	39 Rcc8	Bb5
20 Qb3	Qc7	40 Bb5	Rd8
		41 Bd3	Resigns

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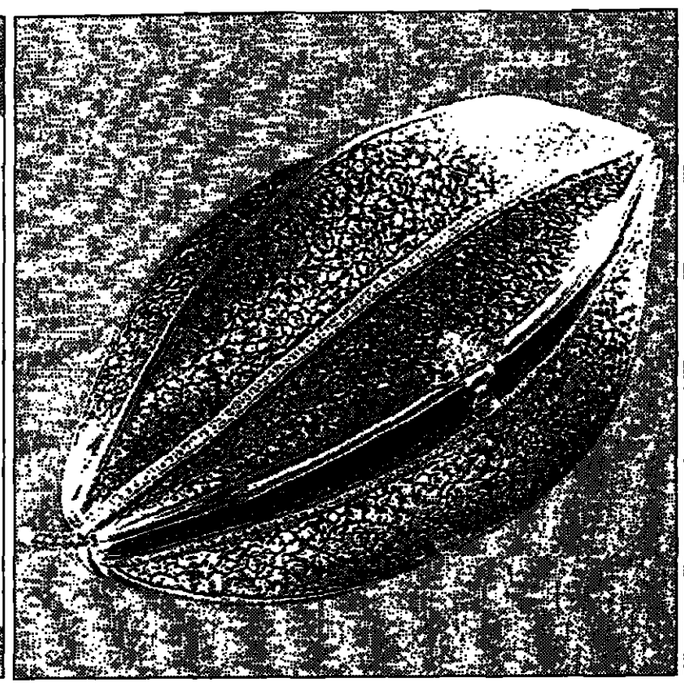
Style

TOMORROW: STAGE



From Nagara's show, traditional woven and iridescent Thai fabrics given a couture spin; a fruit-shaped evening purse in metalwork, and a traditional patterned straw basket.

A High-Fashion Spin on Traditional Treasures of Thailand

By Suzy Menkes
International Herald Tribune

PARIS — It is only a humble straw basket. Yet its surface glows iridescent green with the fragments of beetles' wings. Such intricate peasant handwork is symbolic of the treasures from Thailand on display on the first floor of the Eiffel Tower, where the public is peering into magnified showcases and gasping in wonder at the ultra-fine work of human hands.

Keeping crafts alive is the mission of Queen Sirikit of Thailand, who visited Paris last week as part of the celebrations for the 50th anniversary of the reign of her husband King Bhumibol Adulyadej.

A fashion show of graceful dresses created from traditional fabrics by the court couturier Nagara and the opening of "Thailande: Tresors d'Artisans" (craftwork treasures) both showed the fruits of the effort Queen Sirikit has put into her crafts foundation, Support. Designed to encourage artisanal skills, Support was set up in 1976, to help the rural poor supplement meager incomes by drawing on peasant skills. It has developed as a way of preserving arts and crafts threatened by the forward march of mass production and technology.

The exhibition is also intended as a showcase for Thai crafts, including ancient museum artifacts alongside the current work, so that a traditional lacquerwork betel-leaf service or vivid theatrical masks might be shown beside modern pieces. The current creations are intended for museums or for use by the court, rather than as high-class tourist souvenirs, but some are put on sale in specialist stores to emphasize that craft is a living skill.

"The object of the exhibition is to make people understand the culture and to realize that these objects were not born like that — they are part of a long tradition," says Doctor Smitthi Siribhadra, the curator, who accompanied Bernadette Chirac, wife of the French president, along with Queen Sirikit and her daughter, at the Paris opening.

The public is transfixed by the showiest pieces in silver and gold and the grotesque painted faces on theatrical masks.

But Siribhadra says that the object that touches him most is not the magnificent silver elephant or the extraordinary figured metalwork sculptures representing the footprints of Buddha. It is rather the juxtaposition of a recent lotus-flower ceramic creation with an ancient lotus-shaped oil lamp from the 14th-century Sukhothai period.

"It proves that something of our culture rests in our soul," Siribhadra says of that serendipitous pairing.

That same spirit was shown at the opening reception by the floral carvings in fresh fruit, with a young woman turning a watermelon into hibiscus flowers to decorate the party. They echoed the metal evening purses in the exhibition in the shape of bananas, papayas and exotic fruit, made of niello with gold and silver surface decoration.

AT the opening ceremony was Erik Mortensen, Paris couturier to Queen Sirikit and her court for 37 years, since her first state visit, when he was assistant to Pierre Balmain. Mortensen has continued the connection through his career at Balmain and at Jean-Louis Scherrer, where he still maintains a studio. He reminisced with the embroiderer Francois Lesage about their joint creations using the beetle-wing technique.

Queen Sirikit's dresses on display at the Eiffel Tower include a jacket on which the embroidery traces the patterns of Mudmee, an ancient fabric technique, and other distinctive Thai effects, like the ikat-style tie-dyes.

A high-fashion element was also displayed in the show staged by Nagara Sambandaraska, a 41-year-old Thai couturier, whose studies at fashion school in England and whose interest in Japanese culture produced an intriguing Asian hybrid. Under the dome of Au Printemps department store in Paris, and in front of Queen Sirikit and an audience that included East-meets-West designer Kenzo, Nagara showed his collection.

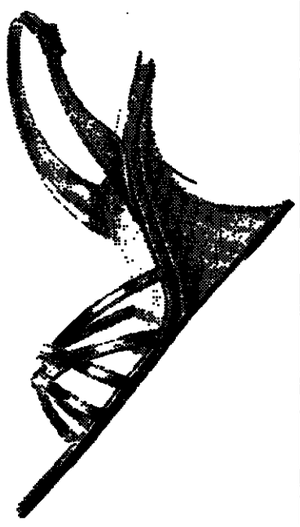
"I am inspired by my culture and I try to show that, working with all kinds of silk," said Nagara, who has a boutique in Bangkok. Some of his exclusive fabrics, which he uses for interior decoration as well as fashion, are on sale at Bloomingdale's in New York.

Fabrics were the star of the Paris presentation, where simple shapes, like side-split dresses over pants, tunics with folk-weave patterns and jackets where tie-dye effects bled inky shadows on a red ground, all displayed a sophisticated elaboration on ethnic roots.

Ear-piece jewelry, spiky head-decoration and models with arms held out added to the sense of drama. But the most striking effects were in the craftsmanship that can turn beetle wings into a jewel of an evening gown.

"Thailande: Tresors d'Artisans" at the Eiffel Tower until May 25.

High and Heavy at the Heel: Wedges and Platforms Are Back



Moore/Thomas (2)

From left: Dolce & Gabbana's flower-pattern sandals; Ferragamo's "Evita" wedge; D&G's wood-sole sandal.

Clockwise from top left: Christian Lacroix's coin-decorated thong sandal; Kickers' Neoprene wedge-heel mule; calfskin sandal from Bally; Sonia Rykiel's platform sandal, Dior's jet-embroidered, multistrap evening sandal.

International Herald Tribune

PARIS — High off the ground they walk. But instead of the familiar click! clack! of the ladylike high-heel shoe, there is a stomping thud. The platform sole, the wedge heel and the mule have staged a fashionable comeback.

Shoes for spring and summer are heavy. Even the high-heel sandal, held to the foot with a couple of straps, tends to stand on a built-up sole and sturdy heel. For those used to daintier footwear, let's call it the thin end of the wedge.

The most popular sandals are rock solid: a Chinese platform-sole style where the base is as thick as a club sandwich, and the wedge shoe, where a triangular slab-of-cheese lifts the heel off the ground.

The one factor the hefty sandals have in common is that they are pretty. Pretty? Yes, because instead of being made in plain leather, there are dozens of options, from fruit-pastel suedes through jewel-color velvets and flower-pattern fabrics. And leather itself often comes decorated, like the antique finishes and embossed flower patterns of Prada's 1970s revival shoes. Modernist designers have found other ways to lighten up the heavy shoe, by using transparent vinyl, perhaps inset with flowers, for the instep of a mule; or, like Kickers' sports sandals, by using Neoprene and replacing buckles with Velcro fastenings.

Perhaps the most striking transformation is of the mule. The backless slipper, so long associated with boudoir or hooker (think Marilyn Monroe in marabou-feather mules) has shaken off its fluffy, sleazy connotations to become hip. It now joins the clog and the orthopedic sandal, as part of footwear's cool scene.

Where did these many variations on conventional summer styles appear from? Prada's sour takes on the 1970s have propelled the forward march of the platform sole, although it was long a feature of Vivienne Westwood's collections. As so often with modern fashion, the look started in the flea markets, where kids bought up what their moms had cast out.

But the Flower Children era had also looked back — to the 1940s. When Ferragamo shod Madonna last year in "Evita," the Italian company also brought back into its stores re-creations of Eva Peron's well-stocked wardrobe. Those 1940s designs showed Salvatore Ferragamo's genius at turning necessity into invention, for the cork and wooden wedges, which he used to overcome wartime shortage of steel for heels, became an immediate and enduring fashion.

A whiff of the 1940s in fashion — light dresses with sturdy footwear — is part of Dolce & Gabbana's look. Their flower-pattern sandals with wedge heels have been as much copied as Prada's velvet platform-sole sandals.

The origins of platform shoes have been well-documented by fashion historians. They go back to ancient Greece, when actors wore them to increase their stature, and especially to 16th-century Venice, where *chopines* were worn by prostitutes literally standing out from the crowd. In an era when clothes are modest and minimal, it seems inevitable that fancy shoes should be the towering height of fashion.

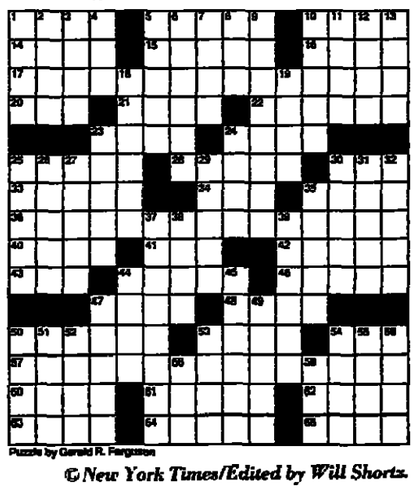
Suzy Menkes

Line Vautrin: 'Poet of Metal'

International Herald Tribune

PARIS — You could imagine Line Vautrin's valedictory creation — one of her signature gilded powder-compacts engraved with the scattered letters of "au revoir." Except that the "poet of metal," who died last week at age 83, would never have done anything so sentimental. Her jewelry and her whimsical gilt buttons from her heyday in the 1940s and '50s were bold, brilliant, barbaric and intricately crafted and her experiments with resin were imaginative and inventive.

CROSSWORD



Puzzle by Gerald R. Ferguson

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ACROSS

1 Ouark's place
5 Some are filled out
10 Org. for 7-Down
14 Command on a submarine
15 Beethoven dedicatee
16 Get —— the ground floor
17 "Stop" sign
20 Costa del ——
21 Cleanse
22 One of the Brothers Karamazov
23 "Unforgettable" singer
24 Gas or elec., e.g.
25 To pieces
28 Lustrous fabric
30 Sailor
33 Assail
34 Ted's role on "Cheers"
35 "Dies ——"
36 "Stop" sign
40 Connecticut Ivy Leaguers
41 —— de la Cité
42 Marconi's invention
43 Cub's home
44 To whom Tinker threw
46 Alamogordo event
47 Bouillabaisse, e.g.
48 Table d'——
50 Chairs on poles
53 Angler's luck
54 Guy's date
57 "Stop" sign
60 German article
61 Colorful rock
62 "Pistol Packin' ——"
63 Cherished
64 Wankel engine part
65 Procedure part

DOWN

1 Tacks on
2 Novice: Var.
3 Track shape
4 Kitten's cry
5 Untamed
6 Mount of —— (site near Jerusalem)
7 Astronaut Sally
8 N.Y.C. sports venue
9 When to sow
10 This meant nothing to Nero
11 Operating without —— (taking risks)
12 Skyrocket
13 "The King ——"
18 Three sheets to the wind
19 Ugandan dictator
23 Game featuring shooters
24 Where Provo is
25 Invited
26 English dramatist George
27 Supped at home
29 Starwort
30 School division
31 Watering hole
32 Infatuate
35 Furious
37 Exceptional, as a restaurant or hotel
38 Went by plane
39 Gadget for cheese
44 Sicilian volcano
45 Religion of Japan
47 Not a spendthrift
49 Aquatic mammal
50 Scurried
51 Buffalo's lake
52 Actress Merrill
53 Tuckered out
54 Midge
55 Crowning point
56 "Able to —— tall buildings ..."
58 Freudian factor
59 Early hrs.

CORRECTION — Down definitions omitted from yesterday's puzzle:

30 Track official
32 Try to stop a squeak again
33 Snappish
35 To an extent
36 Quotes in book reviews
38 Rummy variation
39 Depose gradually and politely
41 —— Angeles
42 Pugilist's weapon

Solution to Puzzle of April 21

G	A	R	B	O	■	B	A	Y	E	D	■	N	O	W
A	L	I	E	N	■	O	L	I	V	E	■	A	V	A
T	A	B	L	E	H	O	P	P	E	R	■	M	I	X
■	■	■	G	N	A	T	S	■	N	I	C	E	N	E
S	A	T	I	E	T	Y	■	D	I	V	I	D	E	D
C	R	E	A	S	E	■	L	I	N	E	A	R	■	■
O	M	E	N	S	■	T	A	N	G	S	■	O	R	T
L	O	N	S	■	S	I	Z	E	S	■	E	P	E	E
D	R	Y	■	C	O	M	E	R	■	E	X	P	O	S
■	■	■	B	L	A	M	E	D	■	F	A	C	E	I	T
C	R	O	O	N	E	R	■	M	I	S	E	R	L	Y
R	I	P	S	A	W	■	T	A	S	E	R	■	■	■
A	S	P	■	S	H	O	W	S	T	O	P	P	E	R
V	E	E	■	T	A	P	E	S	■	U	T	T	E	R
E	R	R	■	A	T	S	E	A	■	T	S	A	R	S

Harry's
Est. 1911, Paris
"Sank Roo Doe Noo"
A Space for Thought.

مكتبة الأهرام

What Did Greenspan Mean By 'Irrational Exuberance'?

He Fears Share Prices May Outpace Earnings

By Louis Uchitelle
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — The chairman of the Federal Reserve Board, Alan Greenspan, seemed to signal to many Americans with one unnerving rhetorical question last December that the boom in the stock market was coming to an end.

Now four months later, Mr. Greenspan is gradually providing his own answer: the speculative frenzy that could bring a prolonged market decline is not here yet.

What he has done in recent speeches and congressional testimony is offer an interpretation of what he meant when he asked whether "irrational exuberance has unduly escalated stock prices."

His answer centers on future corporate profits. So far, in his emerging explanation, profits are expected to continue growing sufficiently to justify the boom in the stock market to date. But that could soon change.

The explanation is important because Mr. Greenspan's original question — and his coining of the phrase "irrational exuberance" — has played a role in unnerving investors, making the stock market rather volatile. After hitting a high in early March, the Dow Jones industrial average fell nearly 10 percent in just over a month, only to bounce back nearly 5 percent last week, its biggest weekly rise in four years.

It was a rare spectacle to have the Federal Reserve chairman publicly jawboning the stock market, particularly when the effort seemed unsuccessful. With last week's rise, the Dow is still up more than 250 points from where it was when Mr. Greenspan first spoke.

But that gain appears to be within the Greenspan ball park.

Irrational exuberance only begins when millions of Americans, new to stock ownership and never stung by a depressed market, continue to bid up stock prices even after profits are no longer projected to grow fast enough to support the rising share prices.

"The question, essentially, is whether profit margins will continue to increase," Mr. Greenspan said in a recent speech. Various forecasts available to Mr. Greenspan for his recent speeches and congressional testimony suggest that future profit growth will support the current high level of stock prices. But those forecasts date from March, and new ones could show a slowing in the expected rate of profit growth.

Other Federal Reserve policymakers, although they speak often about what is happening to the economy, were reluctant to answer questions about the stock market.

Most consider the subject too sensitive for public comment, but the hesitancy may

NEWS ANALYSIS

also reflect differences of opinion within the central bank. The one policymaker who did talk for the record said that investor attitudes that stock prices could only go up may be changing.

"I am sure there is a lot of reassessing going on across the country," said Edward Kelley Jr., a Federal Reserve Board governor. "Markets are not a one-way bet, with everyone a winner, and they had come to look like that."

Future profit growth, then, is the key criterion, in the Greenspan view, for stepping over the line into irrational exuberance. Although Mr. Greenspan has not cited any projections that suggest a rate of profit growth insufficient to support stock prices at current levels, such a slowdown is feared by many economists.

Some, like Robert Shiller at Yale University, argue that earnings and stock prices are already out of sync. When that happens, then millions of Americans cross the line into irrational exuberance, if they continue to drive up stock prices, unmindful of the changed circumstances.

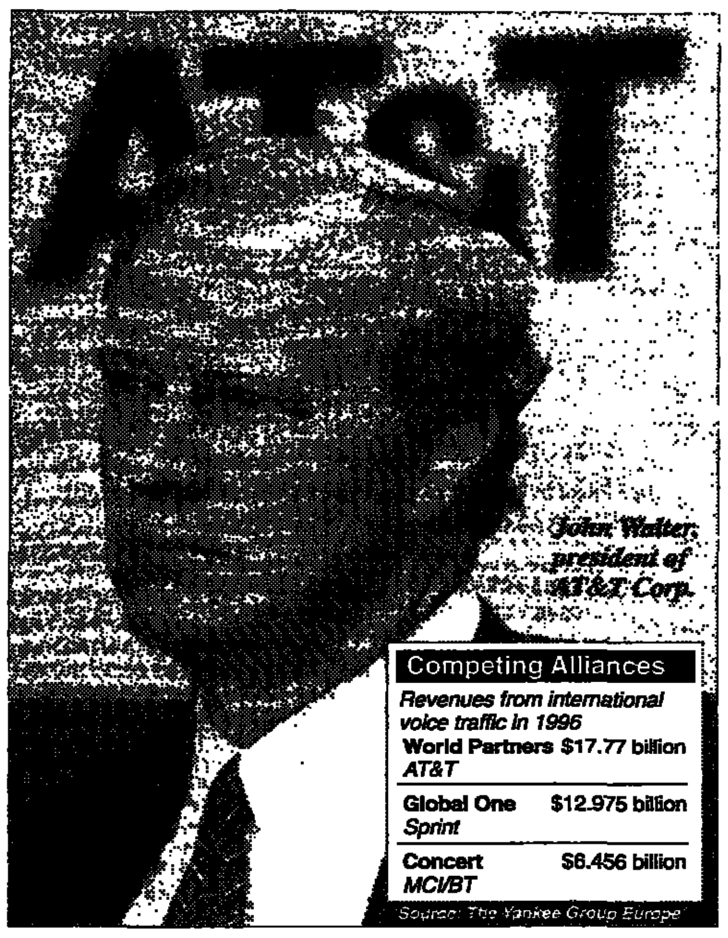
That sort of optimism cannot last; stocks that are too highly priced will inevitably fall, perhaps over a long period, as they did in the mid-1970s.

■ Clinton Picks New Fed Nominees

President Bill Clinton will name Edward "Ned" Gramlich and Roger Ferguson to the Federal Reserve Board, the U.S. Treasury secretary, Robert Rubin, said, according to a Bloomberg News dispatch from Chantilly, Virginia.

Mr. Gramlich, 57, is dean of the School of Public Policy at the University of Michigan. Mr. Ferguson, 46, is a partner at McKinsey & Co., a consulting company.

It was not clear when the nominations would be forwarded to Congress.



John Walter, president of AT&T Corp.

AT&T Profit Drops 24% As Expansion Costs Rise

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

NEW YORK — AT&T Corp. said Monday that its first-quarter profit dropped 24 percent and warned that second-quarter earnings would fall further as it spent more to enter new markets and fight domestic rivals.

AT&T said profit from continuing operations was $1.12 billion, compared with $1.47 billion a year earlier, excluding results from NCR Corp. and Lucent Technologies Inc., which AT&T has spun off.

Revenue from AT&T's continuing operations rose 1.5 percent, to $13.05 billion, reflecting gains in AT&T's local phone service, long-distance service to businesses and wireless services.

But the expense of new investments and struggling sales of long-distance service to consumers hurt AT&T's bottom line. The company increased spending on local, overseas and other young businesses in a bid to diversify.

Some analysts said the latest results showed that AT&T's split has yet to produce the promised boon to shareholders.

AT&T shares have fallen 20 percent since Dec. 31, when the company completed the spin-off of its computer and equipment businesses.

The stock price fell 62.5 cents to close at $33 on Monday.

Analysts said the squeeze on profits would continue as AT&T fights MCI Communications Corp., Sprint Corp. and firms that have made inroads in the residential market. *(Bloomberg, AP)*

Giant's Global Reach Starts to Fall Short

AT&T Smarts From Loss of Telefonica

By Seth Schiesel
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — AT&T Corp.'s loose-knit strategy for extending its global reach appears to be unraveling, even as the international partnership of MCI Communications Corp. and British Telecommunications PLC is strengthening.

The most recent sign was the decision late last week by Telefonica de Espana SA, the largest communications provider in Latin America, to split from AT&T's affiliation of overseas allies to form a much tighter bond with the MCI-BT group.

The defection by Telefonica, which is also Spain's dominant telephone company, underscored AT&T's vulnerability at a time when the world's communications companies are forging alliances to serve the voice- and data-network needs of multinational corporate customers — the most lucrative portion of a $650 billion global telecommunications market.

And not only is AT&T's alliance under pressure from the MCI-BT group. A third group known as Global One, involving the American long-distance carrier Sprint Corp. and its partial owners, Deutsche Telekom AG and France Telecom SA, is making patient, if not yet spectacular, progress.

Telefonica announced Friday that it was leaving a group of smaller European telecommunications providers affiliated with AT&T, called Unisource, to go into business with the MCI-BT combination, known as Concert. Telefonica, which operates communications companies in Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Peru, Puerto Rico and Venezuela, said that AT&T was insufficiently committed to the Latin American market.

"The commitment of AT&T to new investment has not been as strong as BT-MCI," said Fernando Panizo, chief operating officer of TISA, Telefonica's overseas subsidiary.

"The most important project to us is the expansion and consolidation of Latin America," Mr. Panizo said. "To do that we need the commitment of someone to go with us in the new investment and distribute worthwhile global products."

Many analysts saw the move as a coup for Concert, because Latin America's market for telecommunications services is expected to nearly double, to $60 billion, by 2000.

"It's a landmark transaction," said J. Bradford Bunch, a partner at the management consulting firm Deloitte & Touche in Atlanta. "It focused that the global supercarrier is now a reality. It's changed the competitive landscape for the whole industry."

In most of the 47 countries around the world where Concert now has partners,

Exxon Corp. said its first-quarter profit soared 15 percent. Page 13.

the bonds between companies are cemented by joint investments or an exchange of equity. BT, which has a pending deal to acquire MCI for $22 billion, has also purchased pieces of its partners in France, Germany and Italy, for example.

And in the agreement announced Friday, BT and Telefonica received the right to each purchase a stake of about $445 million in the other company.

AT&T, however, has generally shied away from putting money on the table to ensure lasting relationships, both in Unisource, which now has only four members, and in its larger alliance with 16 foreign companies inside and outside Europe, called World Partners.

"Telefonica shows there's less of an ability of this to be done through superficial partnerships," said Stephanie Comfort, an analyst for Morgan Stanley. "It seems you need to have a much more tangible lock-up."

Looser partnerships may lend flexibility, analysts said, but can prevent companies from providing the seamless international communications demanded by large business customers.

"AT&T's alliance is deeply broken and flawed in its structure," said David Goodtree, a director at Forrester Research, an information technology research firm based in Cambridge, Massachusetts. "BT and MCI each put half a billion to a billion dollars into Concert. They act with one mind."

See STRATEGY, Page 17

Thinking Ahead /Commentary

China Must Join World Trade System

By Reginald Dale
International Herald Tribune

WASHINGTON — Dealing with the rise of China is now widely seen as the most important long-term challenge facing the United States. Yet current American thinking is more often shaped by disapproval of China, and by domestic politics, than by a rational assessment of U.S. interests.

There can be little doubt that those interests would best be served by the successful integration of China into the Western-oriented world economic system in the years ahead.

Provided the terms are right, China's admission to the Geneva-based World Trade Organization should help to ensure that Beijing continues economic reforms, opens its highly protected market and submits to the rule of international law.

The United States, which has taken the lead in negotiating China's WTO entry, is best placed to ensure that outcome. But the current climate in Washington is hardly conducive to sensible trade policy.

This summer's annual congressional debate on extending China's most-favored-nation status, a move that would guarantee regular access to the American market, will probably be the toughest yet.

Politicians on both left and right are advocating the withdrawal of most-favored-nation status, or the threat of it, to press China on issues ranging from human rights, arms proliferation, religious intolerance and forced abortions to Tibet, Taiwan and Hong Kong.

The ballooning U.S. trade deficit with China is making Congress disinclined to grant Beijing commercial favors. The House minority leader, Richard Gephardt, a likely rival of Vice President Al Gore for the Democratic presidential nomination in 2000, is openly wooing labor unions concerned about low-wage Chinese competition.

Although President Bill Clinton will propose renewing China's trade status in the next few weeks, Beijing's alleged attempts to buy political influence in Washington have made most politicians nervous about being nice to China.

But the best way to make China an enemy would be to treat it as one: Denial of the trade status would certainly be a hostile act. It would severely disrupt trade, shatter Hong Kong's economy just as it reverts to China and sabotage Mr. Clinton's attempts to improve relations with Beijing.

China would almost certainly retaliate, and switch business to America's commercial rivals, without changing its behavior on human rights or anything else.

Basically, Washington has got to make up its mind on a simple question: Does it want to trade with China? If it does, far from suspending the trade status, it should make it permanent and end the counterproductive annual battle on Capitol Hill.

One good thing, however, may come of China's current unpopularity in Washington: It should stiffen Mr. Clinton's resolve to insist on strict terms for Chinese WTO entry. He will have to justify every concession made to Beijing.

That should help to avert the real risk that Mr. Clinton might rush through a deal with Beijing for political reasons, so as to have big news to announce at a summit meeting with President Jiang Zemin planned for this autumn.

The most important aim should be to ensure Beijing both can and will enforce the commitments it undertakes — perhaps through some kind of probationary WTO membership. Chinese concepts of the rule of law are very different from those of the West.

The huge U.S. trade deficit actually gives Washington important leverage. China needs the American market and would like guaranteed access through the WTO. It also needs foreign investment, which WTO membership would make more attractive.

China's integration into the world economy has already gone so far that it would be virtually impossible to pull back. For the United States, it would be better to risk that China walk away in a huff by demanding tough enforcement provisions, than to offer permissive terms that would undermine the credibility of the rules of the world trading system.

CURRENCY & INTEREST RATES

Cross Rates

April 21

	$	£	D.M.	F.F.	Lira	D.Fl.	B.F.	S.F.	Yen	C$	Peseta
Amsterdam	1.9145	3.13	1.1242	0.3329	0.1137*	—	5.448*	1.3211	1.5244*	1.3706	1.3285*
Brussels	35.09	57.425	20.63	6.115	2.0817*	18.354	—	24.17	0.2805	25.12	24.425*
Frankfurt	1.7848	2.784	—	0.2965	0.1009*	0.8896	4.848*	1.1742	1.3801*	1.2288	1.184*
London (a)	1.6348	—	2.7829	9.398	2,765.84	3.1286	57.4449	2.3694	205.2165	2.2839	235.2559
Madrid	143.978	235.202	84.484	25.054	8.521*	75.153	4.0947	99.288	114.925*	102.659	—
Milan	1,688.55	2,760.25	991.75	294.16	—	881.60	48.826	1,162.50	13.477	1,207.48	11.737
New York (b)	—	1.6355a	1.6975	5.7347	1,692.00	1.9082	35.05	1.4465	125.315	1.3988	143.865
Paris	5.7466	9.3875	3.372	—	0.3481*	2.9996	0.1634	3.9689	4.587*	4.1121	3.992*
Tokyo	125.80	205.57	73.20	21.85	0.746	65.57	3.5728	86.64	—	89.99	0.8743
Toronto	1.3985	2.2864	0.8238	0.244	0.0826*	0.7329	0.3991*	0.9691	1.1159*	—	0.974*
Zurich	1.457	2.3683	0.8487	0.2514	0.0853*	0.7546	4.116*	—	1.149*	1.034	1.0047*
ECU	1.1487	0.7082	1.9526	6.6011	1,941.85	2.2007	40.3912	1.6457	143.909	1.6051	165.356
SDR	1.3734	0.8413	2.344	7.8924	2,320.76	2.6312	48.2616	1.995	172.82	1.9166	197.702

Closings in Amsterdam, London, Milan, Paris and Zurich, fixings in other centers; New York at 4 p.m. and Toronto rates at 3 p.m.
*a: To buy one pound; b: To buy one dollar; *Units of 100; N.Q.: not quoted; N.A.: not available.*

Other Dollar Values

Currency	Per $	Currency	Per $	Currency	Per $	Currency	Per $
Argent. peso	0.9986	Greek drac.	270.18	Mex. peso	7.86	S. Afr. rand	4.445
Australian $	1.2885	Hong Kong $	7.7468	N. Zealand $	1.4436	S. Kor. won	893.00
Austrian sch.	11.986	Hung. forint	180.44	Norw. krone	7.071	Swed. krona	7.6413
Brazil real	1.0615	Indian rupee	35.758	Phil. peso	26.35	Taiwan $	27.62
Chinese yuan	8.3251	Indo. rupiah	2412.63	Polish zloty	3.14	Thai baht	26.08
Czech koruna	29.97	Irish £	0.6423	Port. escudo	171.56	Turkish lira	132250.
Danish krone	6.567	Israeli shek.	3.4052	Russ ruble	5741.50	UAE dirham	3.6705
Egypt. pound	3.393	Kuw dinar	0.3008	Saudi riyal	3.75	Venez. boliv.	479.25
Fin. markka	5.1475	Malay. ring.	2.5055	Sing. $	1.4397		

Forward Rates

Currency	30-day	60-day	90-day	Currency	30-day	60-day	90-day
Pound Sterling	1.6333	1.6325	1.6317	Japanese yen	124.70	124.14	123.58
Canadian dollar	1.3945	1.3916	1.3891	Swiss franc	1.4445	1.4397	1.4349
Deutsche mark	1.6996	1.6959	1.6921				

Sources: ING Bank (Amsterdam); Indosuez Bank (Brussels); Banca Commerciale Italiana (Milan); Banque de France (Paris); Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi (Tokyo).

Libid-Libor Rates

April 21

	Dollar	D-Mark	Swiss Franc	Sterling	French Franc	Yen	ECU
1-month	5 1/2 - 5 5/8	3 1/16 - 3 3/16	1 1/4 - 1 3/8	6 - 6 1/8	3 1/4 - 3 3/8	7/16 - 9/16	4 - 4 1/8
3-month	5 11/16 - 5 3/4	3 1/8 - 3 1/4	1 11/16 - 1 13/16	6 5/16 - 6 7/16	3 3/8 - 3 1/2	7/16 - 9/16	4 3/16 - 4 5/16
6-month	5 13/16 - 5 15/16	3 1/8 - 3 1/4	1 15/16 - 2	6 9/16 - 6 11/16	3 7/16 - 3 9/16	1/2 - 5/8	4 3/16 - 4 5/16
1-year	6 1/4 - 6 5/16	3 5/16 - 3 3/8	2 - 2 1/8	6 7/8 - 7 1/8	3 9/16 - 3 11/16	5/8 - 3/4	4 5/16 - 4 7/16

Sources: Reuters, Lloyds Bank.
Rates applicable to interbank deposits of $1 million minimum (or equivalent).

Key Money Rates

United States	Close	Prev
Discount rate	5.00	5.00
Prime rate	8 1/2	8 1/2
Federal funds	5 7/16	5 7/16
90-day CDs dealers	5.68	5.70
180-day CP dealers	5.68	5.68
3 month Treasury bill	5.15	5.15
1-year Treasury bill	5.62	5.59
2-year Treasury bill	6.41	6.38
5-year Treasury note	6.74	6.71
7-year Treasury note	6.79	6.76
10-year Treasury note	6.86	6.83
30-year Treasury bond	7.08	7.06
Merrill Lynch 30-day RA	4.93	4.96
Japan		
Discount rate	0.50	0.50
Call money	0.41	0.45
1-month interbank	0.59	0.56
3-month interbank	0.59	0.59
6-month interbank	0.63	0.63
10-year Govt bond	2.23	2.23
Germany		
Lombard rate	4.50	4.50
Call money	3.10	3.10
1-month interbank	3.23	3.25
3-month interbank	3.25	3.27
6-month interbank	3.28	3.28
10-year Bond	5.86	5.80

Britain		
Bank base rate	6.00	6.00
Call money	5 1/2	5 9/16
1-month interbank	6 1/16	6 1/16
3-month interbank	6 1/8	6 3/16
6-month interbank	6 5/16	6 5/16
10-year Gilt	7.56	7.51
France		
Intervention rate	3.10	3.10
Call money	3 3/16	3 3/16
1-month interbank	3 1/4	3 5/16
3-month interbank	3 3/8	3 1/4
6-month interbank	3 3/8	3 1/2
10-year OAT	5.81	5.76

Sources: Reuters, Bloomberg, Merrill Lynch, Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi, Commerzbank, Credit Lyonnais.

Gold

	A.M.	P.M.	Ch'ge
Zurich	342.50	342.20	+0.05
London	342.10	342.20	+0.10
New York	343.30	344.80	+1.40

U.S. dollars per ounce. London official fixings; Zurich and New York opening and closing prices; New York Comex (June.)
Source: Reuters.

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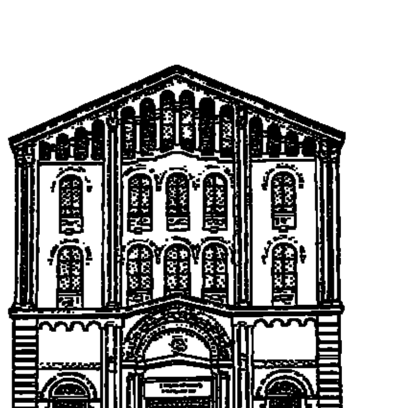
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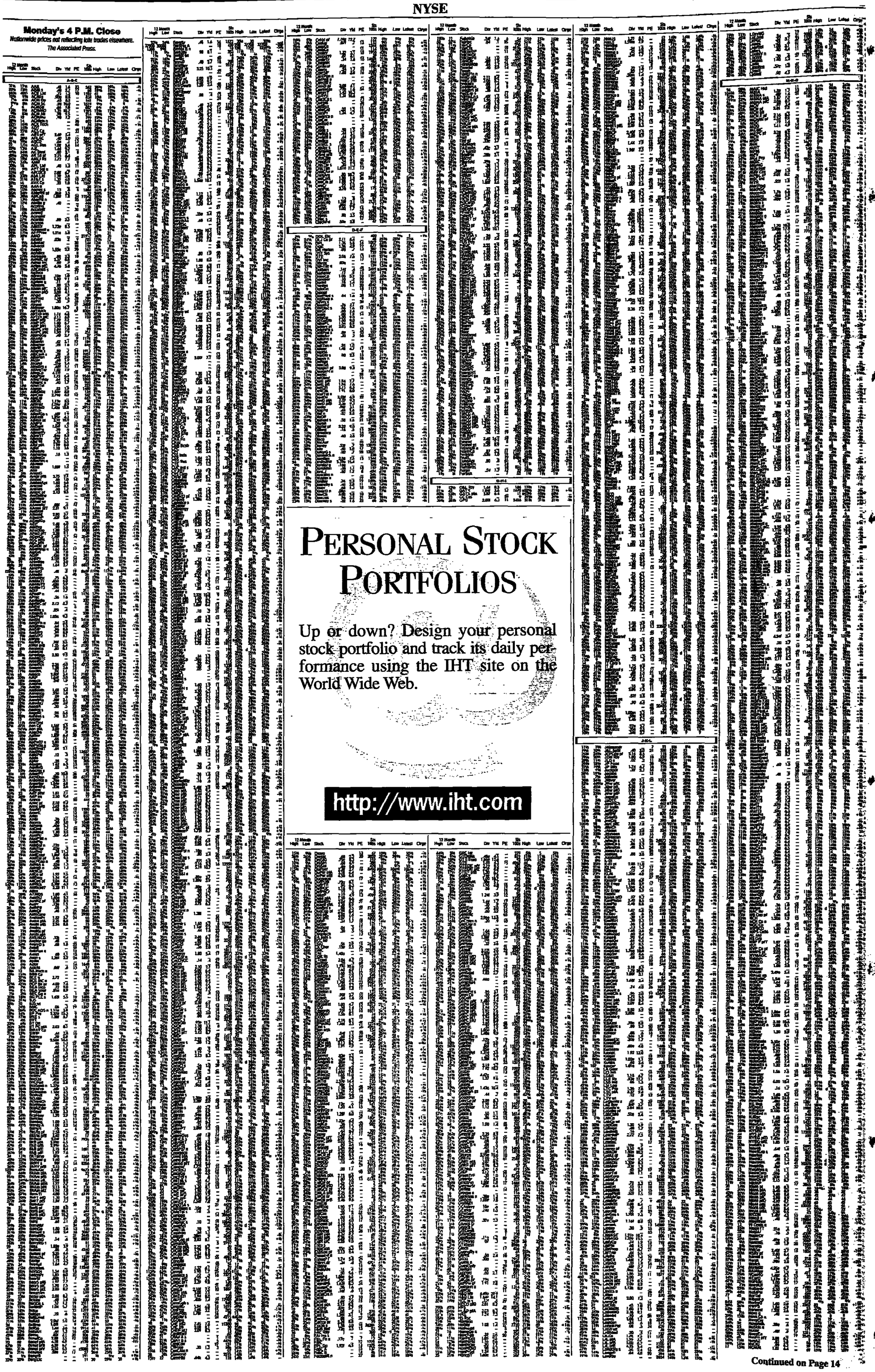
NYSE

Monday's 4 P.M. Close

Nationwide prices not reflecting late trades elsewhere.

The Associated Press.



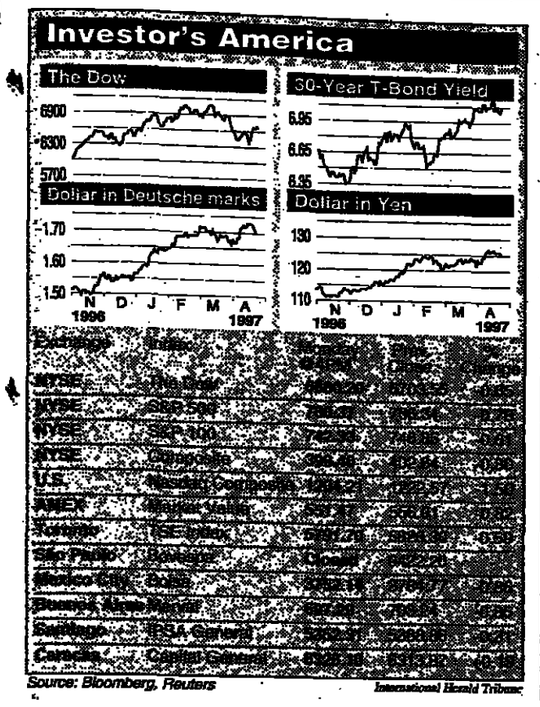
PERSONAL STOCK PORTFOLIOS

Up or down? Design your personal stock portfolio and track its daily performance using the IHT site on the World Wide Web.

http://www.iht.com

Continued on Page 14

THE AMERICAS



Exxon Earnings Surge 15%

Bloomberg News

IRVING, Texas — Exxon Corp., the first of the major U.S. oil companies to report, posted a 15 percent jump in first-quarter profit as oil and natural gas prices rose, but analysts said such growth would not last.

Shares of Exxon rose initially after the earnings report and on news that Texaco Inc. won a Supreme Court case Monday that could mean Exxon will not have to pay $2 billion in disputed taxes. In addition, crude oil prices rose on news of disruptions to refinery supplies. But the stock finished 50 cents lower, at $53.00.

The largest U.S. oil company said net income rose to $2.18 billion, its highest quarterly profit ever, from $1.89 billion a year earlier. In the year-earlier quarter, the company had a one-time gain of $125 million. Revenue for the latest quarter rose 8 percent, to $33.6 billion.

Exxon said it received an average price of $20.31 for a barrel of crude oil in the quarter, compared with $17.37 a year earlier. Its average price for natural gas was $2.88 for a thousand cubic feet, compared with $2.58 a year earlier. But oil and gas prices have since tumbled.

"They won't be reporting these kinds of earnings for a while," said John Hervey, an analyst with Donaldson, Lufkin & Jenrette.

While strong prices in the first part of the quarter helped earnings in one portion of Exxon's business, falling prices in the latter part helped segments that use oil and natural gas as a raw material.

Texaco won a major tax battle with the U.S. government Monday, when the Supreme Court rejected the Internal Revenue Service's appeal in a dispute about income from foreign refining subsidiaries. The decision could also be good news for Exxon, which has a similar case pending in a lower court.

Both disputes involve taxes on the income from Saudi Arabian oil that the companies sold to foreign subsidiaries during the energy crisis of the late 1970s and early 1980s.

The disagreement involved about $1 billion in disputed taxes from Texaco for 1979 to 1981, and more than twice that much from Exxon. With interest, the IRS claimed the two companies together owed more than $5 billion.

The U.S. Tax Court, considering the cases together, sided with Texaco and Exxon. A federal appeals court upheld that decision in connection with Texaco's case. By refusing to hear the IRS's appeal, the Supreme Court left that decision intact on Monday.

While the Supreme Court's refusal to hear the Texaco case doesn't create a binding precedent, it undercuts the IRS's prospects in the Exxon dispute.

Texaco's share price rose 37.5 cents, to $104.00.

As Bond Yields Rise, Stocks Take a Rest

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

NEW YORK — Stocks fell Monday as traders were cautious after last week's rally and rising bond yields tempted investors away from shares.

The Dow Jones industrial average closed 43.34 points lower, at 6,660.21. Declining issues outnumbered advancing ones by a 7-to-5 margin on the New York Stock Exchange. The Dow gained 5 percent last week.

The broader Standard & Poor's 500 index fell 5.97 points, to 760.37, while declining technology issues dragged the Nasdaq composite index down 18.62 points, to 1,203.95.

The Dow had risen early in the day amid stronger-than-expected earnings at Exxon and a legal victory for Texaco. Trading was lighter than usual because of Monday evening's Passover holiday.

"You've got a bored market that is backing from rates and mixed earnings," said John Hammerschmidt of Turner Investment Partners.

Government bond prices fell for the first time in three days as the Treasury and a slew of municipalities and corporations prepared to sell some $62 billion of new debt.

"There's a lot of supply there for the market to digest," which may hurt prices, said Larry Pavelec, a fund manager with M & I Investment Management in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

The price of the benchmark 30-year Treasury bond fell 13/32, to 94 9/32, driving its yield up to 7.09 percent from 7.05 percent.

Stocks look relatively less attractive to investors as government bond yields rise.

Shares of 3Com and U.S. Robotics, which 3Com plans to buy, fell sharply after Intel cut prices on a competing computer-networking product. Intel announced price cuts on its so-called stackable hub products. Hubs, an relatively old technology, account for about 20 percent of 3Com's sales, said Chris Stix of Cowen & Co. "It's an important product for 3Com," he said.

3Com fell 3, to 26¼, U.S. Robotics dropped 5⅝ to 45⅛, while Intel rose 1⅜ to 138½.

Autoimmune stock plunged 9¼

U.S. STOCKS

to 4⅜ after the pharmaceutical-research company said its drug to treat multiple sclerosis performed no better than a placebo in final-stage clinical trials. Meanwhile, Biogen shares rose ¾ to 31¼ after the company's Avonex multiple sclerosis drug was found to be more effective than previously expected.

Eli Lilly shares rose ½ to 85½ after the drugmaker said first-quarter earnings rose 11 percent, to $432.6 million as sales of new products and reduced costs offset a 2.7 percent drop in revenue from its best-selling antidepressant Prozac. Revenue rose 9.5 percent to $1.95 billion.

Stock in Reynolds Metals fell 1⅞ to 65¾ after the company said it would sell its aluminum rolling mill in Alabama to Aluminum Co. of America and record a loss of between $225 million to $250 million.

Coca-Cola Enterprises shares rose ⅜ to 59 after shareholders of the distribution affiliate of Coca-Cola Co. approved a 3-for-1 stock split in a move that effectively tripled the dividend. *(Bloomberg, AP)*

Very briefly:

ITT to Acquire Goulds Pumps

WHITE PLAINS, New York (Bloomberg) — ITT Industries Inc. said Monday it would buy Goulds Pumps Inc. for $934 million in cash and debt to expand its pump-making business.

The combined companies will make the world's largest maker of pumps, ITT officials said.

AST Research to Cut 1,000 Jobs

IRVINE, California (AP) — AST Research Inc. said Monday it would cut about 1,000 jobs, or 25 percent of its work force.

The move comes one week after the computer-maker agreed to be acquired by Samsung Group of South Korea.

- Nabisco Holdings Corp.'s first-quarter earnings rose 21 percent, to $64 million, from a year ago.
- Chrysler Corp. said an 11-day strike at a Detroit engine plant forced it to lay off another 2,362 workers. *Bloomberg*

Kerkorian Said to Bid for Orion

By James Bates
Los Angeles Times

LOS ANGELES — The Las Vegas billionaire Kirk Kerkorian is negotiating to acquire Orion Pictures, primarily for its substantial film library, sources close to the deal said.

An executive familiar with the talks characterized the odds at "60-40" that Mr. Kerkorian would buy Orion from John Kluge, also a billionaire. The sources cautioned, however, that the talks were fragile and could easily unravel. They added that no decision was expected until Wednesday at the earliest.

The executive said that Mr. Kerkorian and Mr. Kluge had discussed a price of about $300 million, but added that it was unclear whether Mr. Kerkorian sought Orion's production arm, which operates far below the level of major Hollywood studios. Mr. Kerkorian bought Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Inc. last year for $1.3 billion.

What Mr. Kerkorian and the MGM chairman, Frank Mancuso, value most, the executive said, is Orion's 2,200-film library. They may want to spin off the production unit to another party as part of a more complicated transaction, the executive said.

Orion is controlled by Mr. Kluge, who is expected by most analysts to sell the studio.

Uncertainty About Europe's Single Currency Buoys Mark

Bloomberg News

NEW YORK — The dollar fell against the Deutsche mark Monday as investors bought the German currency amid concern that European monetary union may not proceed as planned.

The latest doubts surrounding Europe's single currency came as President Jacques Chirac of France called early elections and speculation intensified that Italy would not be admitted to monetary union at the outset in 1999.

"If you throw EMU question marks out there, people buy marks blindly," said John Barlow, a currency trader at Bayerische Landesbank Girozentrale.

The dollar slipped against the yen on speculation that officials from the Group of Seven industrial countries who are meeting in Washington this weekend may try to slow its ascent.

The dollar fell to 1.6975 Deutsche marks, from 1.7118 at the end of the day on Friday. It also fell to 125.315 yen from 125.885.

Mr. Chirac called elections a year early in an effort to win a freer hand at imposing measures to qualify France for the single currency. But early elections could backfire, traders said, costing the ruling coalition seats and derailing Mr. Chirac's efforts.

Debra Larsen, a currency trader at Commerzbank, said a setback for

FOREIGN EXCHANGE

Mr. Chirac in the elections could call into question France's efforts to implement budget cuts needed to qualify for the single currency. "That puts into question EMU, and you go back into the mark, which puts pressure on the dollar against the mark."

Countries hoping to qualify for monetary union must bring their budget deficits down to 3 percent of gross domestic product.

An Italian newspaper, Il Sole, reported that the International Monetary Fund had faulted the government's proposed mid-year budget, saying Italy had not paid enough attention to structural problems.

The dollar fell to 5.7347 French francs from 5.7668. It fell to 1.4415 Swiss francs from 1.4560. The pound rose to $1.6355 from $1.6330.

Traders said they expected this weekend's meeting of the G-7 to give the dollar some direction.

"There's some concern that exchange rates will be a topic of communication," said Robert Katz, a currency trader at MTB Bank. "They may not call for an outright stop, but they could try to slow the extend of the dollar's appreciation."

At its meeting in February, the G-7 declared victory in a two-year effort to raise the dollar from postwar lows. But the dollar soared after the U.S. Federal Reserve raised rates and fast U.S. growth indicated that there could be another rise.

Weekend Box Office

The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — "Anaconda" dominated the U.S. box office over the weekend, with a gross of $12.2 million. Following are the Top 10 moneymakers, based on Friday's ticket sales and estimated sales for Saturday and Sunday.

1. Anaconda	(Columbia Pictures)	$12.2 million
2. Liar Liar	(Universal)	$10.2 million
3. Murder at 1600	(Warner Bros)	$8.0 million
4. The Saint	(Paramount)	$7.3 million
5. Grosse Pointe Blank	(Hollywood Pictures)	$4.9 million
6. The Devil's Own	(Columbia Pictures)	$2.4 million
7. McHale's Navy	(Universal)	$2.1 million
7. That Old Feeling	(Universal)	$2.1 million
9. 8 Heads in a Duffel Bag	(Orion Pictures)	$1.8 million
10. Chasing Amy	(Miramax)	$1.6 million

AMEX

Monday's 4 P.M. Close

The top 300 most active shares, up to the closing on Wall Street.
The Associated Press.

Stock	Sales	High	Low	Latest	Chge
AMC	309	19⅝	19⅛	19⅛	+⅛
AMC pf	70	30¼	29¾	29¾	+¼
ABC	186	34⅝	34⅛	34⅝	+⅝
ATT Fd	74	7⅞	7⅞	7⅞	+⅛
AVIC Co n	303	4⅞	4⅝	4⅝	+⅛
AdSrgy s	78	11⅞	11⅝	11⅝	-⅛
Aerosan	17	10⅝	10	10	-⅝
AirNet	115	4⅝	4⅝	4⅝	-⅛
Akzo ADR s	165	7⅝	7⅝	7⅝	+⅛
AlAndalus	273	12⅝	12⅝	12⅝	+⅝
AlaNtwk	218	8	7⅝	7⅞	-⅛
Amcast	269	9⅝	9⅝	9⅝	+⅛
AmBkNt	75	23⅝	23⅝	23⅝	+⅛
AEnvl	244	16⅝	16⅝	16⅝	-⅛
AMR Bt	238	14⅝	14⅝	14⅝	-⅛
AMR Rt	64	1⅝	1⅝	1⅝	-⅛
AMCRow	78	9⅝	9⅝	9⅝	+⅛
Amtrol	223	6⅝	6⅝	6⅝	+⅛
Angeles	1271	12⅝	12⅝	12⅝	-⅛
Applmed	107	13⅝	12⅝	13	+⅝
AmAtlA	74	7⅝	7⅝	7⅝	+⅛
Asiatic	107	3⅝	3⅝	3⅝	+⅛
AsPetro	3099	2⅝	2⅝	2⅝	+⅛
AstSoty	115	2⅝	2⅝	2⅝	+⅛
AstroEl	155	2	1⅝	2	+⅛
Atlantis	487	1⅝	1⅝	1⅝	-⅛
Azco	103	1⅝	1⅝	1⅝	+⅛
BAT Ind	1767	17⅝	17⅝	17⅝	+⅛
BalgrM s	170	2⅝	2⅝	2⅝	-⅛
BalcDists	120	9	8⅝	9	+⅛
Balzer	75	2⅝	2⅝	2⅝	+⅛
BeRnly s	268	15⅝	15⅝	15⅝	-⅛
BioSpr	1117	2⅝	2⅝	2⅝	-⅛
Biotel	145	2	2	2	+⅛
BLyon wt	130	1	1	1	-⅛
BioMDG	75	4⅝	4⅝	4⅝	+⅛
BrazilGold	1068	7⅝	7⅝	7⅝	+⅛
BrenNt	147	26⅝	25	25⅝	+⅛
BrckPR s	1265	12⅝	12⅝	12⅝	+⅛
Brownlgs	71	9⅝	9⅝	9⅝	+⅛
BuerT	82	7	6⅝	6⅝	-⅛
Bugeye wt	5	1⅝	1⅝	1⅝	-⅛
BullTrds n	161	5	4⅝	5	+⅛
Bussex	499	26⅝	26⅝	26⅝	-⅛
BytBlzg n	167	4⅝	4⅝	4⅝	-⅛
CBX Cp	141	16⅝	16	16	-⅛
Calibur	309	3⅝	3⅝	3⅝	+⅛
Calnet	10	¾	¾	¾	+⅛
Cambor	67	12⅝	12⅝	12⅝	-⅛
Cambex s	141	16⅝	20⅝	20⅝	+⅛
CmbDcr s	182	8⅝	7⅝	7⅝	-⅛
CmwlEn s	174	2⅝	2⅝	2⅝	+⅛
Candela s	439	3⅝	3⅝	3⅝	-⅛
Cannondale s	182	8⅝	7⅝	7⅝	-⅛
CapFd	76	23⅝	23⅝	23⅝	+⅛
CPCdn s	240	4⅝	4⅝	4⅝	+⅛
CardOn	1141	3⅝	3⅝	3⅝	+⅛
CdsTrc	1178	6⅝	5⅝	6⅝	+⅛
Chef	272	16⅝	15⅝	16⅝	+⅛
Chiquit	88	20⅝	20⅝	20⅝	-⅛
CohrSfr	84	12⅝	12⅝	12⅝	+⅛
CollJ	671	12	11⅝	11⅝	-⅛
Coolbrnd	1113	2⅝	2⅝	2⅝	-⅛
CoolMe n	169	6⅝	6⅝	6⅝	+⅛
CrkCp n	76	11⅝	11⅝	11⅝	+⅛
CrypMan	367	12⅝	11⅝	11⅝	-⅛
Cyberdrm	76	2⅝	2⅝	2⅝	+⅛
CyberSt	147	6⅝	6⅝	6⅝	+⅛
CytoTh	77	9⅝	9⅝	9⅝	+⅛
DrxWy	288	10⅝	10	10	-⅛
DETS Int	302	4⅝	4⅝	4⅝	-⅛
EZ Serv	203	4⅝	4⅝	4⅝	-⅛
EcoWay	2468	6⅝	6⅝	6⅝	+⅛
Edisto	135	9⅝	9⅝	9⅝	+⅛
Endica	326	7⅝	7⅝	7⅝	+⅛
EPrimeE	653	6⅝	6⅝	6⅝	-⅛
Elecsys	93	9⅝	9⅝	9⅝	-⅛
EmrAir	84	3⅝	3⅝	3⅝	+⅛
EmrCar	136	3⅝	3⅝	3⅝	+⅛
EnviroSy	439	15	14⅝	14⅝	-⅛
Equitrac n	1111	9	8⅝	8⅝	-⅛
Evansvl	93	16⅝	16⅝	16⅝	+⅛
ExecTel s	190	2⅝	2⅝	2⅝	+⅛
Fansteel	77	3⅝	1⅝	1⅝	+⅛
Fibrbd	101	36	35⅝	35⅝	+⅛
Filmar	301	8⅝	7⅝	8⅝	+⅛
FstPhx	1254	9⅝	9	9⅝	+⅛
Flitcr	918	11⅝	11	11⅝	+⅛
FstLib	1000	15⅝	15⅝	15⅝	+⅛
FstPhil	108	1⅝	1⅝	1⅝	+⅛
Fretek	151	5⅝	5⅝	5⅝	+⅛
FrptPl	45	9⅝	9⅝	9⅝	+⅛
GST Tele	1	6⅝	6⅝	6⅝	+⅛
Gensci	244	4⅝	4⅝	4⅝	+⅛
GeoQcl	200	1⅝	1⅝	1⅝	+⅛
Goldstk	238	13	13	13	+⅛
GalExw	91	1⅝	1⅝	1⅝	+⅛
GrenCh	79	12⅝	12⅝	12⅝	-⅛
GrndCtrl	414	2⅝	2⅝	2⅝	+⅛
Guardrl	57	22⅝	22⅝	22⅝	+⅛
Guess	26	6⅝	6⅝	6⅝	+⅛
Gulfdrl	21	17	17⅝	17⅝	+⅛
Gulwest	311	7⅝	7⅝	7⅝	-⅛
GylWav	181	1⅝	1⅝	1⅝	-⅛
HarbFl n	41	4⅝	4⅝	4⅝	+⅛
HlthCo	83	⅝	⅝	⅝	+⅛
HeilTrd s	115	20⅝	20⅝	20⅝	+⅛
HemaBio	53	5⅝	5⅝	5⅝	-⅛
Hemisph s	100	15⅝	15	15⅝	-⅛
HmSCA	68	12⅝	12⅝	12⅝	-⅛
HmStd	1396	3⅝	3⅝	3⅝	+⅛
HotJP	172	7⅝	7⅝	7⅝	+⅛
Hoboy	250	3⅝	3⅝	3⅝	+⅛
HydroSol n	1380	17⅝	17⅝	17⅝	-⅛
HyprDis	82	⅝	⅝	⅝	+⅛
Hyseis	4571	6⅝	6⅝	6⅝	+⅛
Hybrid s	5639	25⅝	24	24⅝	-⅛
IntrMtr	313	3⅝	3⅝	3⅝	-⅛
IntPwr s	315	1⅝	1⅝	1⅝	+⅛
Intest	1122	2	1⅝	2	-⅛
Itron	67	22⅝	22⅝	22⅝	-⅛
IntrWtl s	247	16⅝	16	16⅝	+⅛
IntrnTel	92	7⅝	7⅝	7⅝	+⅛
Intraph	6	6⅝	6	6	-⅛
IntrgrA	259	17⅝	17⅝	17⅝	+⅛
IntelEn	364	6⅝	6⅝	6⅝	+⅛
IGI	252	4⅝	4⅝	4⅝	+⅛
Interlk	342	8⅝	7⅝	8	+⅛
IntgCtlg	442	23⅝	22⅝	23⅝	+⅛
IntelCp s	717	45⅝	44⅝	45	-⅛
IntelSat	78	13⅝	13⅝	13⅝	+⅛
INTERM	1638	11⅝	11⅝	11⅝	-⅛
INTCPT	471	5⅝	5⅝	5⅝	-⅛
IntroGo	1618	5⅝	5	5⅝	-⅛
IntrSpd	497	⅝	½	⅝	-⅛
Intermagn	317	9⅝	9	9⅝	-⅛
IRIS	72	4	3⅝	4	+⅛
IsrPetr s	1578	19⅝	19⅝	19⅝	+⅛
IsrEmbr	148	7⅝	7⅝	7⅝	+⅛
IvanCp	3642	7⅝	7⅝	7⅝	+⅛
JTS Corp	1140	19⅝	19⅝	19⅝	-⅛
JacBtel	167	5⅝	5⅝	5⅝	-⅛
KBK Cap	145	5⅝	5	5⅝	+⅛
KKV Inc	114	4⅝	4⅝	4⅝	+⅛
Kaptel	189	2⅝	2	2⅝	+⅛
Kasmir s	3697	4	4	4	-⅛
KeyTen	403	15⅝	15⅝	15⅝	-⅛
LCSolutn	155	7⅝	7⅝	7⅝	-⅛
LaBarge	139	7⅝	7⅝	7⅝	+⅛
LoTrk Sy	120	3⅝	4⅝	3⅝	-⅛
LabMkt	381	25⅝	25⅝	25⅝	+⅛
LabTest	284	6⅝	6⅝	6⅝	+⅛
LiTwin	173	13⅝	13⅝	13⅝	-⅛
Mal Inc	63	5⅝	5⅝	5⅝	-⅛
MargnTest	284	5⅝	5⅝	5⅝	-⅛
MdPr	77	12⅝	11⅝	11⅝	-⅛
Maxton	176	4⅝	4⅝	4⅝	-⅛
MedSys A	109	8	7⅝	7⅝	-⅛
MedLab	107	8⅝	8⅝	8⅝	+⅛
Medtr	185	30⅝	30⅝	30⅝	+⅛
MelloJ pf	100	5⅝	5⅝	5⅝	-⅛
Metromedia	1811	8⅝	7⅝	7⅝	-⅛
MikeIps	98	3⅝	3	3⅝	+⅛
MilleBlg	67	11⅝	11⅝	11⅝	+⅛
Minerals	61	12⅝	12⅝	12⅝	-⅛
Mosinee	3465	7⅝	7⅝	7⅝	-⅛
MSWR Wtd	434	2⅝	2⅝	2⅝	+⅛
MusicGr	76	8⅝	8⅝	8⅝	-⅛
NewMdia n	178	17⅝	17	17	-⅛
Nanmor	242	1	1⅝	1⅝	-⅛
NeoMedi	226	16⅝	16⅝	16⅝	+⅛
NTPCnn	863	3⅝	3⅝	3⅝	+⅛
Nobels	1641	11⅝	11⅝	11⅝	-⅛
NorWat	110	6⅝	5⅝	6⅝	+⅛
NovaStun s	155	5	4⅝	5	-⅛
NutraLn s	152	7⅝	7⅝	7⅝	-⅛
NY Tiger	2404	6⅝	6⅝	6⅝	-⅛
NuvoRes n	197	15⅝	14⅝	14⅝	-⅛
NA Vaccr	503	19⅝	19⅝	19⅝	-⅛
Nuwave	142	2⅝	2⅝	2⅝	-⅛
Nykor s	108	2⅝	2⅝	2⅝	-⅛
Oncor	517	3⅝	3	3⅝	-⅛
Optexx	69	19⅝	19⅝	19⅝	-⅛
PC Quest	139	1⅝	1⅝	1⅝	-⅛
PLC Sys	1582	1⅝	1⅝	1⅝	-⅛
PLM	2340	4⅝	4⅝	4⅝	-⅛
PC Cinema	26	14⅝	14⅝	14⅝	-⅛
PacGulf	122	5⅝	5⅝	5⅝	-⅛
PetAmCb s	489	7⅝	7⅝	7⅝	-⅛
PowerC	449	16⅝	16⅝	16⅝	-⅛
PrcCpG	1569	7⅝	7⅝	7⅝	-⅛
PrcWtr	45	22⅝	22⅝	22⅝	-⅛
Pulmatrix	1423	2⅝	2	2⅝	-⅛
Pluralst	503	2⅝	2⅝	2⅝	-⅛
PlayNt	71	1⅝	1⅝	1⅝	+⅛
Profac	238	12⅝	12	12	-⅛
Pulaski	154	5⅝	5⅝	5⅝	-⅛
PyroEn s	1071	14⅝	14⅝	14⅝	-⅛
PCCUS s	155	7⅝	7⅝	7⅝	-⅛
QuadGrx s	282	8⅝	8⅝	8⅝	-⅛
Quantum	1	5⅝	5⅝	5⅝	-⅛
QwikCr	1	5⅝	5⅝	5⅝	-⅛
RF Tech	437	3⅝	3⅝	3⅝	-⅛
RadStd	117	1⅝	1⅝	1⅝	-⅛
RJ Justice	141	2⅝	2⅝	2⅝	-⅛
Regatta	281	2⅝	2⅝	2⅝	+⅛
Relmn s	58	12⅝	12⅝	12⅝	-⅛
RelMan s	139	1⅝	1⅝	1⅝	-⅛
RenzDr s	328	2⅝	2⅝	2⅝	-⅛
SCI Sys	7	5⅝	5⅝	5⅝	-⅛
SafeBrds s	208	10⅝	10⅝	10⅝	-⅛
SagaCom s	114	17⅝	17⅝	17⅝	-⅛
SilicMch	104	17⅝	17⅝	17⅝	-⅛
SmthTr n	117	2⅝	2⅝	2⅝	-⅛
Sonic pf	117	2⅝	2⅝	2⅝	-⅛
Sonics	186	15⅝	15⅝	15⅝	-⅛
SpectraPh	1	17⅝	17⅝	17⅝	-⅛
SpectraLs	77	4⅝	4⅝	4⅝	-⅛
SpectrTr	117	2⅝	2⅝	2⅝	-⅛
Spectra	186	1⅝	1⅝	1⅝	-⅛
SpectraWt	117	2⅝	2⅝	2⅝	-⅛
Stellent	64	11⅝	11⅝	11⅝	-⅛
Stellex	403	⅝	⅝	⅝	-⅛
SterlgBnc	1228	9⅝	9⅝	9⅝	-⅛
SterlgInt	67	2⅝	2⅝	2⅝	-⅛
SterlgWt	1	1⅝	1⅝	1⅝	-⅛
SteelCo	1	5⅝	5⅝	5⅝	-⅛
SteelVu	1	5⅝	5⅝	5⅝	-⅛
SteelWt	1	5⅝	5⅝	5⅝	-⅛
SteelWtt	1	5⅝	5⅝	5⅝	-⅛
Stellcm	1	5⅝	5⅝	5⅝	-⅛
SteelPrt	1	5⅝	5⅝	5⅝	-⅛
SteelPtr	1	5⅝	5⅝	5⅝	-⅛
SteelHrd	1	5⅝	5⅝	5⅝	-⅛
SteelMn	1	5⅝	5⅝	5⅝	-⅛
SteelPlt	1	5⅝	5⅝	5⅝	-⅛
SteelTch	1	5⅝	5⅝	5⅝	-⅛
SteelVen	1	5⅝	5⅝	5⅝	-⅛
SteelWrl	1	5⅝	5⅝	5⅝	-⅛
SteelXtr	1	5⅝	5⅝	5⅝	-⅛
Stellex	1	5⅝	5⅝	5

NASDAQ

Monday's 4 P.M.

The 1,000 most-traded National Market securities in terms of dollar value, updated twice a year. The Associated Press.

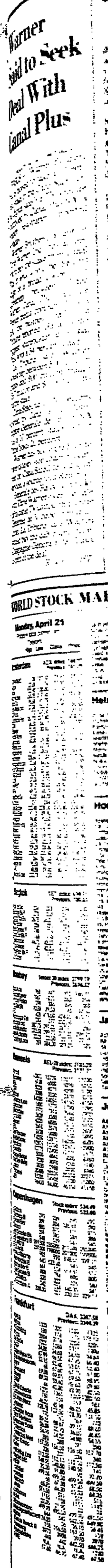
52 Week High	52 Week Low	Stock	Div	Yld	PE	Sales 100s	High	Low	Latest	Chge
A-B-C										
D-E-F										
G-H-I										
J-K-L										
M-N-O										
P-Q-R										
S-T-U										
V-W-X										
Y-Z										

NYSE

Monday's 4 P.M. Close

(Continued)

52 Week High	52 Week Low	Stock	Div	Yld	PE	Sales 100s	High	Low	Latest	Chge
P-Q-R										
S-T-U										
V-W-X										
Y-Z										



EUROPE

Warner Said to Seek Deal With Canal Plus

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

PARIS — Warner Brothers Inc. is poised to take a 10 percent stake in the CanalSatellite, the digital satellite TV venture controlled by Canal Plus SA, a French newspaper reported Monday.

Warner Brothers, a unit of Time Warner Inc., has an option to buy the stake from Canal Plus in what would be the first stage of a broad cooperation agreement between Time Warner, Canal Plus and the French media company Havas SA, the business daily La Tribune reported. Havas is the biggest shareholder in Canal Plus, with a 34 percent stake.

La Tribune said Warner would pay between 500 million francs and 800 million francs ($87 million and $139 million) for the stake.

CanalSatellite is 70 percent owned by Canal Plus. Compagnie Generale des Eaux SA has a 10 percent stake, while Pathe holds 20 percent.

Warner has not signed up to have its television channels carried on CanalSatellite's digital service, a source told Reuters.

Generale des Eaux is in talks with Time Warner over the sale of its cable TV unit, Compagnie Generale de Videocommunication. La Tribune said Warner would buy the cable unit from Compagnie Generale des Eaux as part of the deal.

(Reuters, IHT)

From Cordiant, 3 Companies Are Born

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

NEW YORK — Cordiant PLC, the global advertising company that went through a stormy shake-up two years ago with the departure of two founders, Maurice and Charles Saatchi, said Monday it would split into three companies.

Cordiant said shares in Saatchi & Saatchi Advertising Worldwide and Bates Worldwide would trade separately on the London and New York stock exchanges. Bates & Saatchi will jointly own Zenith Media, Cordiant's media buying unit.

The decision to dissolve the company means the end of the Cordiant name after little more than two years.

The parent company, once known as Saatchi & Saatchi Advertising, chose that name shortly after Maurice and Charles Saatchi left the firm in a bitter dispute at the end of 1994.

The Saatchis went on to form their own competing agency under the name of M&C Saatchi, and the new agency won a number of accounts from Cordiant, including one longtime client, British Airways.

In May 1995, the Saatchis and their former agency agreed to settle a legal dispute stemming from their ouster. It allowed both companies to continue using the Saatchi names, and let a number of executives follow the Saatchi brothers to their new shop.

Cordiant said it has rebounded from the troubles of its breakup with the Saatchis, and the restructuring will allow all of its various advertising offices and smaller subsidiaries, operating in 90 countries with 10,400 employees, to become more autonomous and efficient.

A Cordiant spokeswoman could not immediately say whether any jobs will be lost.

Investors applauded the news, sending Cordiant up 5.5 pence on the London Stock Exchange, to close at 135.5 pence.

"Two separate management teams will have an incentive to run their groups more profitably," said Lorna Tilbian, an analyst with Panmure Gordon & Co. "It makes our projection of 10 percent margins more likely."

Cordiant said last month it had returned to profitability in 1996, with net income of £27 million ($44 million), reversing a loss of £34.5 million a year earlier.

Bob Seelert, now chief executive of Cordiant, will become chief executive of Saatchi & Saatchi, while the Bates chief executive, Michael Bungey, will run that group. Zenith Media Worldwide will be run by John Perriss, its current chairman.

Charlie Scott will remain nonexecutive chairman of both Saatchi and Bates in their first year as separate companies and will then step down from one, Mr. Seelert said.

Mr. Seelert said the spin-off will accelerate sales and profit growth, increase autonomy and accountability at its ad networks, and enable Bates and Saatchi to compete more freely for clients. Now, for example, because Saatchi handles advertising for Procter & Gamble Co. products such as Tide, Cascade and Comet, Bates cannot solicit business from P&G's competitors.

Removing the client conflicts will open about 10 percent of the world advertising market to Bates, Cordiant said. *(NYT, Bloomberg, AP)*

Deutsche Tallies Misused Accounts

Reuters

FRANKFURT — Deutsche Bank AG on Monday described as "realistic" a press report that about 180,000 clients might be affected by a fund-mismanagement scandal at its British subsidiary, Deutsche Morgan Grenfell Asset Management.

But the bank said the client figure, reported in the mass-circulation daily Bild, would not mean it needed to make additional compensation payments.

Deutsche has said it will face £200 million ($326.6 million) in compensation charges related to the alleged mismanagement at three Morgan Grenfell funds last year.

That charge comes on top of a £180 million cash injection by the bank to shore up the ailing funds.

Deutsche Bank has set aside 1.1 billion to 1.2 billion Deutsche marks ($642.6 million to $701 million) in its 1996 results to cover damages related to the incidents at Deutsche Morgan Grenfell.

A spokesman said Deutsche Bank had estimated its compensation needs on the basis of the volume of funds on deposit at Morgan Grenfell Asset Management, not on the number of individuals with accounts.

"We said last December that around 90,000 MGAM accounts were involved in this, but we were never quite sure how many people were behind that number," the spokesman said.

He said the number of clients mentioned in the Bild account "appears to us to be realistic. But this has no effect on the compensation figure."

Last week, the British investment industry watchdog, the Investment Managers Regulatory Organization, imposed a record £2 million fine on Morgan Grenfell Asset Management over the debacle, which led to the dismissal of Peter Young, who managed two of the funds.

Separately, the organization unveiled a plan on Monday to raise industry standards and improve investor awareness.

The organization said it wanted to do more training of regulators, firms and investors and raise industry standards by changing its admissions process.

"Only through knowledge and awareness can the regulator hope to achieve effective investor protection," said the organization's chief executive officer, Phillip Thorpe.

The organization said it would improve its admissions process by including a second stage that will mean that most firms will have their activities restricted before they have successfully undergone a first monitoring visit. The regulator said it hopes to complete a pilot study by autumn.

Profit Off 17% At Norsk Hydro

Agence France-Presse

OSLO — Norsk Hydro A/S said Monday that its net profit fell 17 percent in the first quarter from a year ago, to 1.54 billion kroner ($217.4 million), mostly because of poor results from on-shore operations.

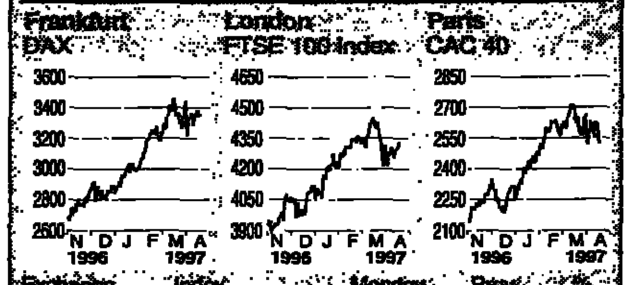
Norsk Hydro's share price surged 23 kroner to close at 355 kroner.

Sales at Norway's biggest industrial company climbed to 23.2 billion kroner, up 8.9 percent from a year ago.

Norsk Hydro said satisfactory oil and gas results and expanded agriculture operations had played a key role in holding operating income at a high level.

Income in the light metals division was halved because of lower aluminum prices.

Investor's Europe



Exchange	Index	Monday Close	Prev. Close	% Change
Amsterdam	AEX	744.92	741.79	+0.42
Brussels	BEL-20	2,183.20	2,171.71	+0.53
Frankfurt	DAX	3,347.58	3,344.39	+0.10
Copenhagen	Stock Market	534.49	533.00	+0.28
Helsinki	HEX General	2,839.13	2,833.83	+0.19
Oslo	OBX	607.14	596.48	+1.79
London	FTSE 100	4,328.70	4,310.50	+0.42
Madrid	Stock Exchange	494.36	491.16	+0.65
Milan	MIBTEL	12299	12248	+0.42
Paris	CAC 40	2,522.67	2,547.56	-0.98
Stockholm	SX 16	2,796.86	2,826.60	-1.05
Vienna	ATX	1,194.14	1,191.93	+0.19
Zurich	SPI	2,990.31	2,969.22	+0.71

Source: Telekurs — International Herald Tribune

Very briefly:

- **Astra AB**, the Swedish drug company, posted a 1 percent profit rise in the first quarter, to 3.46 billion kronor ($452 million), which was below analysts' expectations.
- **Svenska Handelsbanken AB**, Sweden's largest bank, reported a 14 percent rise in operating profit in the first quarter, to 1.73 billion kronor.
- **Post & Telekom Austria AG** will cut long-distance charges this year by 3.3 billion schillings ($273 million) to try and be more competitive before a possible sale to the public.
- **Dassault Systemes SA's** first-quarter earnings rose 34 percent, to a record level of 116.3 million French francs ($20.1 million), and the company cited strong sales.
- **AO St. Petersburg Telephone Network** plans to sell 44.1 million preferred shares with the hope of raising up to $45 million to modernize its network.
- **International Monetary Fund** negotiators are to arrive in Moscow this week for talks that may pave the way for the release of the next installment of a $10.1 billion loan.
- **Societe Europeenne des Satellites SA** will begin broadcasting Britain's Channel 5 this week via satellite to 2.9 million households in Britain and Ireland. *Bloomberg News, AFX*

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

Monday, April 21
Prices in local currencies.
Telekurs

Amsterdam
AEX Index: 744.92 Previous: 741.79

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
ABN-AMRO	130	127.50	129.90	128.50
Aegon	137.80	134	137.80	135.50
Ahold	132.90	128.80	131.50	133.20
Akzo Nobel	260.70	257.60	260	259.30
Baan Co.	95.50	91.70	92	92
Bols Wess cva	37.30	36.50	37.20	36.80
CSM cva	110	107.50	111.50	109.30
Dordtsche Pet	361.70	357.40	361	358.70
DSM	186.50	184.20	186	185
Elsevier	31.30	30.40	31.10	31.10
Fortis Amev	72.20	70	72.20	71.30
Getronics	60.30	59.30	60.30	59.50
G-Broc cva	64	62.70	64	63.10
Hagemeyer	161.20	158.60	160.90	160.40
Heineken	320.50	317.30	319.30	318.50
Hoogovens cva	85.60	84.50	85.20	85.30
Hunt Douglas	156.50	152.70	154.20	152.80
ING Group	74.70	72.80	74.40	73.50
KLM	57.50	57.30	57.40	57.60
KNP BT	39.10	38.80	38.80	39
KPN	69.70	68.70	68.90	69.60
Nedlloyd Gp	45.20	44.20	45	44.40
Nutricia	287	284	284.50	285.50
Oce Grinten	233.40	228.50	233.40	228.40
Philips Elec	91.10	89.90	90.90	90.90
Polygram	96.40	95.50	95.90	95.60
Randstad Hdg	169.50	168	168	168.50
Robeco	160.10	159.70	159.70	160.50
Rodamco	60.50	59.70	60.50	59.80
Rolinco	162.70	162.50	162.70	163.10
Rorento	109.20	108.80	109.20	109
Royal Dutch	338.60	335.80	336.40	338.70
Unilever cva	364	361.50	363.20	362.90
Vendex Intl	95.50	94.70	95.10	95.30
VNU	40.90	39.40	40.50	39.60
Wolters Kl cva	233.70	230	231	231

Bangkok
SET Index: 694.21 Previous: 700.21

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Adv Info Svc	234	228	234	230
Bangkok Bk F	270	258	266	266
Krung Thai Bk	36.75	36.25	36.75	36.75
PTT Explor	326	326	326	328
Siam Cement F	748	716	716	740
Siam Com Bk F	168	158	162	158
Telecomasia	44.75	43.25	43.25	44.75
Thai Airways	43	42.25	42.25	43
Thai Farm Bk F	176	172	173	175
Utd Comm	175	171	172	175

Bombay
Sensex 30 index: 3799.79 Previous: 3696.52

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Bajaj Auto	960	947	952	946.75
Hindust Lever	1067	1055	1063	1054
Hindust Petlm	398	386	396	388
Ind Dev Bk	93.50	89.50	90	89.50
ITC	428	418.50	424.25	415.75
Mahanagar Tel	283	277	282.50	275
Reliance Ind	307.75	291.25	307.75	289
State Bk India	313.50	299.75	311.25	296.25
Steel Authority	23.25	22.50	22.75	22.75
Tata Eng Loco	391	384.50	389.25	382

Brussels
BEL-20 index: 2183.20 Previous: 2171.71

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Almanij	13875	13700	13875	13700
Barco Ind	6120	6000	6090	6050
BBL	8220	8070	8200	8100
CBR	3380	3330	3370	3310
Colruyt	14300	14050	14150	14150
Delhaize Lion	1800	1770	1790	1790
Electrabel	7970	7910	7960	7930
Electrafina	3620	3500	3580	3520
Fortis AG	6220	6080	6270	6150
Gevaert	2610	2570	2570	2600
GBL	5130	5080	5130	5090
Gen Banque	14250	13875	14200	14000
Kredietbank	12975	12750	12875	12900
Petrofina	12775	12400	12775	12675
Powerfin	5000	4860	5000	4960
Royale Belge	9200	9080	9080	9140
Soc Gen Belg	3030	2980	3030	3040
Solvay	20400	20250	20350	20275
Tractebel	15200	14900	15100	15000
UCB	96450	94300	96350	95150

Copenhagen
Stock Index: 534.49 Previous: 532.86

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
BG Bank	293	289	290	292
Carlsberg B	391	384	385.61	390
Codan Fors	880	875	875	875
Danisco	391	385	388	386
Den Danske Bk	548	539	545	545
D/S Svendborg B	271500	285000	271500	285000
D/S 1912 B	201500	198000	201000	199000
FLS Ind B	905	890	898.55	899.70
Kob Lufthavne	645	633.40	645	645
Nvo Nordisk B	661	654	659.61	657
Sophus Ber B	800	794	800	800
Tele Danmk B	330	322	326	340
Tryg Baltica	342	334	340.85	341
Unidanmark A	330.33	327	330.33	329.17

Frankfurt
DAX: 3347.58 Previous: 3344.39

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
AMB B	1320	1320	1320	1335
Adidas	180	174	175	178.10
Allianz Hdg	3204	3174	3204	3205
Altana	1325	1280	1311	1300
Bk Berlin	34.80	34.50	34.60	34.63
BASF	67.99	66.50	67.95	66.40
Bayer Hypo Bk	53.15	52.40	53.05	52.48
Bay.Vereinsbank	68	67.60	67.75	67.80
Bayer	69.80	69.05	69.50	68.95
Beiersdorf	89.30	88.60	88.80	89.80
Bewag	44	43.80	43.90	42.50
BMW	1370	1361	1369	1362.50
CKAG Colonia	161	159	159	161
Commerzbank	46.25	45.90	46.25	45.85
Daimler Benz	128.70	127.50	128.30	131.50
Degussa	789	765	789	770
Deutsche Bank	89.25	88.67	89.15	88.60
Deut Telekom	36.08	35.92	36.05	36.03
Dresdner Bank	54.90	54.20	54.80	54.55
Fresenius	393	388	391	390
Fresenius Med	157.50	156.50	156.60	157.70
Fried. Krupp	336	331	336	340
Gehe	112.50	112.10	112.50	112.50
Heidelbg Zmt	140.95	140.50	140.50	141
Henkel pfd	92.20	91.80	92	92.20
HEW	499.50	499.50	499.50	490.50
Hochtief	68	67.30	67.45	68.50
Hoechst	65.70	64.30	65.33	64.35
Karstadt	516.50	511	515	516
Linde	1153	1138	1151	1142
Lufthansa	22.05	21.95	22	22
MAN	499.90	495.50	499.90	495.50
Mannesmann	644	642	642.50	640.80
Metallgesellschaft	36.20	35	36.10	36.45
Metro	158	156.50	157.50	159
Munch Rueck R	3970	3900	3970	3970
Preussag	448	442	442.50	446.25
Rheinelektra	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	1240
RWE	67.60	66.95	67.40	67.50
SAP pfd	291.80	288	288.80	281.50
Schering	165.40	164.70	165.40	165.50
SGL Carbon	230.40	229	229.40	231.50
Siemens	90.88	89.25	90	88.65
Springer (Axel)	1500	1500	1500	1500
Suedzucker	837	817	817	850
Thyssen	387	383	384.50	390
Veba	93.20	92.70	93.20	93.45
VEW	500	500	500	500
Viag	755.50	753.50	755	754
Volkswagen	1062	1053	1059	1065

Helsinki
HEX General Index: 2839.13 Previous: 2833.83

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Enso A	42.10	41.50	41.50	42
Huhtamaki I	224	222	222.50	221
Kemira	54.20	53.60	53.60	54
Kesko	72.10	71.50	71.60	71.70
Merita A	16.50	16.20	16.40	16.20
Metra B	142.50	140	140	142
Metso-Serla B	37	36.90	37	36.70
Neste	124	122	123	123
Nokia A	305	298	302	299
Orion-Yhtymae	197	195	195.50	196
Outokumpu A	92	91.50	91.80	91.50
UPM-Kymmene	114.90	114.50	114.50	114.50
Valmet	88.50	88	88.50	87.50

Hong Kong
Hang Seng: 12626.84 Previous: 12541.18

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Amoy Props	7.95	7.70	7.80	7.70
Bk East Asia	26.55	26.25	26.45	26.30
Cathay Pacific	12	11.90	11.95	11.85
Cheung Kong	69.25	67.50	68.25	67.25
CK Infrastruct	22.30	22	22.10	22.25
China Light	35.30	34.70	35	34.60
Citic Pacific	39.40	38.90	39.40	38.80
Dao Heng Bk	36.20	36	36.10	36.10
First Pacific	9.90	9.65	9.75	9.75
Hang Lung Dev	14.20	14.05	14.15	14.15
Hang Seng Bk	85	83.25	84.25	83
Henderson Inv	7.85	7.70	7.80	7.80
Henderson Ld	66.25	64.75	65	64.75
HK China Gas	12.70	12.55	12.65	12.55
HK Electric	27.15	26.75	26.80	27.10
HK Telecomm	13.45	13.25	13.30	13.40
Hopewell Hldgs	4.05	3.98	4	4.03
HSBC Hdgs	187.50	186.50	187	186.50
Hutchison Wh	58.25	57.25	57.75	57.25
Hysan Dev	22.90	22.40	22.70	22.40
Johnson El Hdg	19.40	19.25	19.30	19.30
Kerry Props	17.80	17.50	17.80	17.60
New World Dev	41.50	39.90	41.40	39.90
Oriental Press	3.08	2.95	2.95	3.08
Pearl Oriental	3	2.95	2.98	2.98
SHK Props	81	78	79.50	78.25
Shun Tak Hdgs	4.95	4.93	4.95	4.93
Sino Land Co.	7.30	7.15	7.25	7.20
Sth China Post	6.85	6.75	6.80	6.75
Swire Pac A	59.25	57.50	58.25	59.25
Wharf Hdgs	30.70	29.85	29.95	29.95
Wheelock	16.70	16.30	16.30	16.35

Jakarta
Composite Index: 642.26 Previous: 637.59

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Astra Intl	5825	5800	5800	5800
Bk Intl Indon	1750	1725	1750	1750
Bk Negara	1400	1350	1350	1375
Gudang Garm	10425	10100	10300	10000
Indocement	3350	3250	3300	3225
Indofood	4975	4825	4850	4900
Indosat	6800	6675	6775	6700
Sampoerna HM	9675	9550	9650	9425
Semen Gresik	5775	5750	5750	5775
Telekomunikasi	3650	3625	3650	3625

Johannesburg
All Market: 7040.84 Previous: 7022.23

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Amalgamatd Bks	29.40	29.10	29.15	29.35
AngloAm Coal	283	282	283	281.50
AngloAm Corp	282	280	281.75	281.25
AngloAm Gold	306	304	305	304
AngloAm Ind	181.50	180.25	180.50	180.50
AVMIN	17.90	17.75	17.90	17.75
Barlow	49.25	48.75	49	48.95
C.G. Smith	25.75	25.15	25.40	25.60
De Beers	159.75	157	158.75	160
Driefontein	39.50	39	39.25	39
Fst Natl Bk	31.50	30.50	31.50	30.75
Gencor	18.45	18.25	18.40	18.30
GFSA	110	109	110	108.50
Imperial Hdgs	56	55.50	55.75	56
Ingwe Coal	28	27.50	27.50	27.25
Iscor	3.05	3	3	3.01
Johnnies Indl	59	58.50	58.50	59.50
Liberty Hdgs	316	315	315	317
Liberty Life	119	117	117.25	117.50
LibLife Strat	15.50	15.35	15.50	15.50
Minorco	101	100.75	101	102
Nampak	19	18.60	19	19
Nedcor	87.50	86	87.50	86.25
Rembrandt Gp	46.85	46.25	46.60	46.60
Richemont	64.25	63	63.50	63.25
Rust Platinum	72	71.50	72	71.50
SA Breweries	133	132	132.50	133
Samancor	50	49	49	49
Sasol	54	53.25	53.50	53.50
SBIC	196.50	194	196.50	195
Tiger Oats	77.25	77	77	77.25

Kuala Lumpur
Composite: 1127.60 Previous: 1104.58

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
AMMB Hdgs	18.10	17.80	18	17.70
Genting	14.70	14.20	14.30	14.50
Mal Banking	27.25	26.25	27	26.50
Mal Intl Ship F	5.75	5.30	5.40	5.25
Petronas Gas	8.60	8.15	8.55	8.05
Proton	16.30	15.50	15.80	15.50
Public Bk	4.78	4.50	4.56	4.48
Renong	3.86	3.68	3.72	3.72
Resorts World	9.85	9.55	9.65	9.65
Rothmans PM	23.50	22.90	23.10	22.70
Sime Darby	8.50	8.05	8.25	8.10
Telekom Mal	18	17.50	17.90	17.50
Tenaga	12.10	11.70	12	11.60
Utd Engineers	20.30	19.80	19.90	20.10
YTL	11	10.60	10.70	10.50

London
FT-SE 100: 4328.70 Previous: 4310.50

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Abbey Natl	8.23	8	8.11	8.01
Allied Domecq	4.33	4.23	4.32	4.32
Anglian Water	6.53	6.47	6.47	6.49
Argos	6.62	6.50	6.62	6.50
Asda Group	1.12	1.10	1.11	1.11
Assoc Br Foods	5.28	5.21	5.27	5.19
BAA	5.37	5.25	5.36	5.30
Barclays	10.33	10.18	10.26	10.14
Bass	7.97	7.88	7.95	7.98
BAT Ind	5.35	5.25	5.32	5.32
Bank Scotland	3.41	3.37	3.37	3.32
Blue Circle	4.34	4	4.23	4.12
BOC Group	9.10	9	9.06	9.05
Boots	7	6.90	6.93	7
BPB Ind	3.32	3.28	3.29	3.30
Brit Aerosp	13.53	13.43	13.50	13.62
Brit Airways	6.82	6.78	6.81	6.88
BG	1.86	1.82	1.83	1.86
Brit Land	5.38	5.33	5.36	5.37
Brit Petm	6.92	6.49	6.86	6.86
BSkyB	5.90	5.77	5.81	5.89
Brit Steel	1.49	1.45	1.46	1.50
Brit Telecom	4.53	4.44	4.58	4.46
BTR	2.51	2.46	2.58	2.55
Burmah Castrol	10.18	10	10.08	10.10
Burton Gp	1.51	1.49	1.50	1.49
Cable Wireless	4.85	4.75	4.77	4.87
Cadbury Schw	5.20	5.11	5.17	5.20
Carlton Comm	5.37	5.30	5.32	5.32
Comml Union	6.47	6.35	6.37	6.50
Compass Gp	6.75	6.70	6.74	6.70
Courtaulds	3.36	3.30	3.33	3.36
Dixons	5.15	5.06	5.14	5.10
Electrocomponents	4.20	4.14	4.20	4.14
EMI Group	11.90	11.63	11.79	11.87
Energy Group	5.03	4.95	4.97	5.03
Enterprise Oil	6.20	6.05	6.18	6.18
Fam Colonial	1.52	1.51	1.51	1.52
Genl Accident	8.02	7.96	8.02	8.02
GEC	3.72	3.68	3.71	3.72
GKN	9.48	9.42	9.46	9.44
Glaxo Wellcome	11.50	10.47	11.41	11.40
Granada Gp	8.97	8.85	8.93	8.93
Grand Met	5.10	4.95	5.06	5.03
GRE	2.76	2.72	2.73	2.76
Greenalls Gp	5.22	5.12	5.19	5.14
Guinness	5.14	5.08	5.12	5.15
GUS	6.44	6.28	6.44	6.33
Hays	5.26	5.18	5.25	5.20
HSBC Hldgs	14.86	14.81	14.86	14.76
ICI	7	6.93	6.95	7.01
Impl Tobacco	4.25	4.20	4.23	4.21
Kingfisher	6.72	6.63	6.68	6.70
Ladbroke	2.37	2.34	2.36	2.35
Land Sec	7.83	7.78	7.78	7.78
Lasmo	2.28	2.23	2.27	2.24
Legal Genl Grp	3.90	3.84	3.87	3.86
Lloyds TSB Gp	5.45	5.25	5.29	5.35
LucasVarity	1.95	1.91	1.93	1.94
Marks Spencer	5.02	4.92	4.99	4.97
MEPC	4.60	4.53	4.56	4.57
Mercury Asset	12.65	12.55	12.61	12.67
National Grid	2.22	2.17	2.18	2.20
Natl Power	5.30	5.19	5.29	5.27
NatWest	6.99	6.76	6.94	6.80
Next	6.53	6.38	6.47	6.46
Orange	2.16	2.13	2.14	2.14
P&O	6.10	6.03	6.08	6.12
Pearson	7.30	7.20	7.27	7.27
Pilkington	1.19	1.16	1.19	1.18
PowerGen	6.50	6.40	6.48	6.41
Premier Farnell	5.20	4.95	5	4.96
Prudential	5.78	5.69	5.75	5.74
Railtrack PP	4.48	4.37	4.45	4.43
Rank Group	4.34	4.21	4.26	4.26
Reckitt Colm	8.10	7.95	8.09	7.99
Redland	3.50	3.40	3.44	3.35
Reed Intl	11.44	11	11.19	11.30
Rentokil Initial	4.02	3.98	3.99	4
Reuters Hldgs	5.94	5.81	5.88	5.86
Rexam	3.22	3.17	3.19	3.18
RMC Group	9.70	9.40	9.45	9.63
Rolls Royce	2.45	2.42	2.44	2.47
Royal Bk Scot	5.45	5.27	5.45	5.32
RTZ reg	9.66	9.50	9.60	9.57
Royal & Sun All	4.49	4.42	4.45	4.39
Safeway	3.45	3.41	3.45	3.43
Sainsbury	3.32	3.25	3.29	3.31
Schroders	15.20	15.10	15.20	15.23
Scot Newcastle	6.83	6.75	6.81	6.73
Scot Power	3.77	3.38	3.73	3.73
Securicor	2.87	2.84	2.86	2.87
Severn Trent	7.52	7.43	7.48	7.48
Shell Transp R	10.73	10.43	10.52	10.51
Siebe	9.47	9.36	9.41	9.43
Smith Nephew	1.78	1.76	1.77	1.78
SmithKline	9.07	8.95	9.03	9.08
Smiths Ind	7.63	7.58	7.58	7.72
Sthern Elec	4.37	4.25	4.25	4.30
Stagecoach	6.06	5.49	6	5.93
Stand Charter	8.95	8.69	8.79	8.95
Tate & Lyle	4.47	4.40	4.44	4.42
Tesco	3.68	3.58	3.61	3.63
Thames Water	6.81	6.70	6.81	6.71
3i Group	5	4.95	4.98	4.98
TI Group	5.55	5.48	5.51	5.60
Tomkins	2.68	2.63	2.64	2.69
Unilever	16.01	15.85	15.96	15.83
Utd Assurance	4.59	4.53	4.55	4.55
Utd News	7.31	7.22	7.26	7.20
Utd Utilities	6.98	6.57	6.58	6.58
Vendome Lx uts	5.19	5.13	5.15	5.15
Vodafone	2.69	2.66	2.68	2.68
Whitbread	7.70	7.63	7.68	7.66
Williams Hdgs	3.16	3.10	3.15	3.13
Wolseley	5.02	4.93	4.95	4.94
WPP Group	2.53	2.48	2.51	2.49
Zeneca	18.41	18.22	18.32	18.34

Madrid
Bolsa index: 494.36 Previous: 491.16

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Acerinox	21150	20860	20860	21050
ACESA	1650	1620	1645	1640
Aguas Barcelon	5490	5400	5490	5480
Argentaria	6310	6220	6290	6310
BBV	9170	8930	9170	8990
Banesto	1130	1115	1130	1125
Bankinter	20240	19780	20200	19800
Bco Centro Hisp	4150	4000	4150	4020
Bco Exterior	0080	0080	0000	0080
Bco Popular	27390	27090	27390	27250
Bco Santander	10150	9950	10100	9990
CEPSA	4790	4635	4750	4770
Continente	2525	2485	2515	2515
Corp Mapfre	7290	7160	7200	7230
Endesa	9630	9400	9600	9450
FECSA	1175	1145	1150	1165
Gas Natural	32350	31600	32300	32350
Iberdrola	1605	1560	1575	1595
Pryca	2560	2515	2525	2535
Repsol	6390	6250	6370	6300
Sevillana Elec	1275	1255	1260	1265
Tabacalera	7240	7130	7180	7250
Telefonica	3655	3570	3645	3595
Union Fenosa	1175	1155	1165	1180
Valenc Cement	1740	1715	1740	1750

To Our Readers

Trading was suspended Monday on the Manila stock market due to a power failure.

Mexico
Bolsa index: 3768.50 Previous: 3788.43

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Alfa A	44.35	43.50	44.05	44.15
Banacci B	17.44	16.96	17.02	17.48
Cemex CPO	27.45	27.25	27.25	27.45
Cifra C	11.56	11.22	11.52	11.22
Emp Modema	40.85	40.60	40.80	40.50
Gpo Carso A1	46.80	46.70	46.70	46.90
Gpo F Bcomer	1.77	1.76	1.76	1.79
Gpo Fin Inbursa	27.25	27.10	27.10	27.15
Kimb Clark Mex	31.00	30.75	30.75	30.85
Televisa CPO	102.30	100.00	100.00	102.80
TelMex L	16.42	16.28	16.28	16.48

Milan
MIB Telematico: 12299.00 Previous: 12248.00

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Alleanza Assic	12400	12200	12365	12400
Bca Comm Ital	3560	3495	3545	3500
Bca Fideuram	4440	4360	4360	4420
Bca di Roma	1285	1257	1275	1276
Benetton	22100	21850	22100	21500
Credito Italiano	2370	2310	2370	2340
Edison	9095	8995	9065	9025
ENI	8945	8760	8840	8850
Fiat	5730	5650	5695	5660
Generali Assic	30580	29950	30450	30250
IMI	14980	14710	14950	14855
INA	2305	2285	2285	2300
Italgas	5950	5860	5870	5800
Mediaset	7110	7020	7075	7050
Mediobanca	10885	10700	10725	10700
Montedison	1173	1146	1165	1150
Olivetti	517.50	495	516	491
Parmalat	2580	2510	2560	2530
Pirelli	3835	3760	3785	3825
RAS	15100	14740	14950	14755
Rolo Banca	16880	16510	16840	16950
S Paolo Torino	11750	11600	11670	11700
Stet	7860	7700	7795	7690
Telecom Italia	4410	4320	4380	4320
TIM	5215	5075	5140	5080

Montreal
Industrials Index: 2822.24 Previous: 2821.02

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Bce Mob Com	44.30	43.80	44	43¾
Cdn Tire A	24.70	24.70	24.70	24.55
Cdn Util A	32½	32.10	32½	32¾
CT Finl Svc	33	33	33	32¾
Gaz Metro	17.10	16.85	17.10	17
Gt-West Lifeco	23	22¾	22¾	23
Imasco	37	36.90	36.95	36½
Investors Grp	24.35	24.35	24.35	24.35
Loblaw Cos	17½	17.40	17.40	17.45
Natl Bk Canada	15.10	14.95	14.95	15
Power Corp	27.85	27.60	27.70	27.60
Power Finl	26.10	25.80	25.80	26.15
Quebecor B	24¼	24¼	24¼	24.15
Rogers Comm B	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.15
Royal Bk Cda	53.15	52.85	52.85	52.90

Oslo
OBX Index: 607.14 Previous: 596.48

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Aker A	174	171	172	171
Bergesen Dy A	144.50	143.50	144	144
Christiania Bk	24.10	23.90	23.90	23.80
Den norske Bk	27.80	27.10	27.60	27.10
Elkem	134	129	133.50	129
Hafslund A	46.70	46.50	46.70	46
Kvaerner Asa	350	345	345.50	351
Norsk Hydro	355	335	355	332
Norske Skog A	236	233.50	233.50	233
Nycomed A	108.50	104	104.50	108
Orkla Asa A	597	575	589	573
Petlm GeoSvc	284	280	283	279
Saga Petlm A	118.50	116	117	116.50
Schibsted	127	126	126.50	127
Transocean Off	440	438	440	442
Storebrand Asa	44.90	44.50	44.50	44.60

Paris
CAC-40: 2522.67 Previous: 2547.56

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Accor	858	840	846	857
AGF	192	189.20	192	194.50
Air Liquide	858	836	858	842
Alcatel Alsth	672	659	660	684
Axa-UAP	357.90	351.50	356.70	355.20
Bancaire	746	720	743	731
BIC	857	845	855	867
BNP	224	219	223.50	223.50
Canal Plus	1101	1081	1081	1105
Carrefour	3440	3372	3420	3449
Casino	259	254	256	260
CCF	251.20	245.10	250.60	248
Cetelem	640	630	630	633
Christian Dior	837	823	827	846
CLF-Dexia Fran	548	539	546	542
Credit Agricole	1268	1268	1268	1256
Danone	855	840	850	859
Elf-Aquitaine	545	532	533	547
Eridania BS	840	827	836	843
Eurodisney	10	9.85	9.98	10.85
Eurotunnel	6.65	6.45	6.65	6.50
Gen. Eaux	749	738	744	754
Havas	402.90	395.10	399.50	405
Imetal	808	777	800	787
Lafarge	374	365.80	369.30	375.10
Legrand	962	950	951	965
L'Oreal	1921	1892	1900	1915
LVMH	1337	1314	1319	1347
Lyon. Eaux	527	523	527	529
Michelin B	326.90	316.50	325	324
Paribas A	357	352.80	357	357.30
Pernod Ricard	301.70	288	288	301.60
Peugeot Cit	593	578	585	586
Pinault-Print	2308	2258	2264	2336
Promodes	1880	1848	1864	1903
Renault	133	126	127.80	130
Rexel	1579	1558	1569	1585
Rh-Poulenc A	178.70	176.20	178	179.80
Sanofi	530	516	525	522
Schneider	311.50	307	310.20	312.50
SEB	988	962	988	969
SGS Thomson	383.80	378.10	378.10	385.60
Ste Generale	625	610	625	616
Sodexho	2749	2699	2719	2701
St Gobain	751	739	751	745
Suez	280.40	277.30	280.40	280.40
Synthelabo	670	652	655	671
Thomson CSF	180.70	178	178.60	183.70
Total B	461.80	454.50	455.50	462.80
Usinor	88.50	87.20	87.25	89.50
Valeo	360	346	360	354.20

Market Closed

The Sao Paulo stock market was closed Monday for a holiday.

Seoul
Composite Index: 697.34 Previous: 695.67

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Dacom	103500	101000	101500	102000
Daewoo Heavy	4750	4330	4610	4390
Hyundai Eng.	18900	17900	18100	18300
Kia Motors	16300	15800	16200	16300
Korea El Pwr	27000	26300	26600	26900
Korea Exch Bk	5550	5300	5520	5390
Korea Mob Tel	464000	453000	458000	455000
LG Semicon	28700	27400	27400	27800
Pohang Iron St	57200	53200	54900	53000
Samsung Display	42500	40800	41600	41200
Samsung Elec	62900	60500	61500	60200
Shinhan Bank	10600	10300	10400	10300

Singapore
Straits Times: 2037.89 Previous: 2043.20

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Asia Pac Brew	7	6.90	6.90	7
Cerebos Pac	9	8.80	8.80	8.80
City Devlts	12.80	12.50	12.50	12.60
Cycle Carriage	15.50	15.10	15.10	15.10
Dairy Farm Int *	0.70	0.68	0.68	0.68
DBS foreign	18	17.50	17.50	17.80
DBS Land	4.94	4.84	4.86	4.82
Fraser & Neave	11.30	10.90	10.90	11
HK Land *	2.25	2.20	2.21	2.24
Jard Matheson *	5.60	5.50	5.55	5.50
Jard Strategic *	3.42	3.36	3.36	3.40
Keppel	9	8.70	8.70	8.95
Keppel Bank	3.90	3.88	3.90	3.86
Keppel Fels	4.40	4.32	4.36	4.26
Keppel Land	4.20	4.08	4.10	4.08
OCBC foreign	17.90	17.50	17.80	17.50
OS Union Bk F	10.10	9.90	9.90	9.80
Parkway Hdgs	6.45	6.30	6.45	6.30
Sembawang	6.60	6.30	6.35	6.45
Sing Air foreign	12.20	11.90	12	12
Sing Land	6.95	6.60	6.65	6.90
Sing Press F	27.60	26.30	26.30	27.10
Sing Tech Ind	3.74	3.62	3.72	3.62
Sing Telecomm	2.80	2.73	2.73	2.77
Tat Lee Bank	3.40	3.38	3.38	3.40
Utd Industrial	1.14	1.13	1.13	1.14
Utd O'Sea Bk F	15.30	14.90	15	15
Wing Tai Hdgs	4.16	4.12	4.12	4.14

*: In U.S. dollars.

Stockholm
SX 16 index: 2796.86 Previous: 2826.60

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
AGA B	108	106	106	106.50
ABB A	88.50	86.50	87.50	860
AssiDoman	194	190	191	191
Astra A	344.50	320	320.50	342.50
Atlas Copco A	198.50	195	196.50	196.50
Autoliv	292	287	289	289
Electrolux B	487	480	480	484
Ericsson B	257.50	249	251	250
Hennes B	1095	1080	1085	1088
Incentive A	498	494	496	496
Investor B	347	332	333	341.50
MoDo B	218.50	215	216.50	218
Nordbanken	259	256	256	258.50
Pharm/Upjohn	280	275.50	276	278
Sandvik B	193	190.50	192	191.50
Scania B	187	185	186.50	185.50
SCA B	169	166.50	168	167
S-E Banken A	81	80	80.50	80
Skandia Fors	217	214	216	215.50
Skanska B	341.50	335	340	332.50
SKF B	169	164	169	166
Sparbanken A	138	135	136.50	136.50
Stadshypotek A	190	190	190	190
Stora A	102	100	100	101
Sv Handles A	226	221	226	221
Volvo B	196	191	195	193

Sydney
All Ordinaries: 2445.80 Previous: 2442.40

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Amcor	8.20	8.10	8.12	8.14
ANZ Bking	8.19	8.08	8.18	8.10
BHP	17.21	17.06	17.12	17.16
Boral	3.85	3.81	3.84	3.83
Brambles Ind.	22.25	22	22.20	22
CBA	13.63	13.58	13.55	13.58
CC Amatil	14.45	14.25	14.27	14.34
Coles Myer	6.27	6.18	6.18	6.23
Comalco	6.35	6.24	6.33	6.28
CRA	19.13	19	19.01	19.03
CSR	4.74	4.67	4.67	4.73
Fosters Brew	2.68	2.63	2.66	2.67
Goodman Fld	1.73	1.68	1.70	1.73
ICI Australia	11.89	11.70	11.75	11.89
Lend Lease	24.75	24.45	24.50	24.80
MIM Hdgs	1.74	1.72	1.74	1.74
Nat Aust Bank	16.90	16.51	16.79	16.51
Nat Mutual Hdg	1.90	1.84	1.87	1.90
News Corp	6.09	6.03	6.05	6
Pacific Dunlop	3.38	3.30	3.36	3.33
Pioneer Intl	4.37	4.26	4.29	4.36
Pub Broadcast	6.74	6.65	6.65	6.72
St George Bank	7.97	7.90	7.95	7.92
WMC	7.87	7.77	7.82	7.75
Westpac Bking	6.82	6.78	6.78	6.78
Woodside Pet	10	9.80	9.89	9.82
Woolworths	3.80	3.72	3.75	3.78

Taipei
Stock Market Index: 8421.87 Previous: 8326.53

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Cathay Life Ins	164	160	161	160
Chang Hwa Bk	115	111	112.50	111
Chiao Tung Bk	74	72	72.50	72
China Develpmt	117	114	115.50	114
China Steel	29.20	28.50	29.10	29.10
First Bank	116	111	113	110.50
Formosa Plastic	72	68	70	68
Hua Nan Bk	107	102	104	102
Intl Comm Bk	72	70	70.50	70
Nan Ya Plastics	75	70	73.50	69.50
Shin Kong Life	103	99.50	100.50	99.50
Taiwan Semi	84.50	81.50	84	84.50
Tatung	57	55	56.50	55
Utd Micro Elec	65	62	63.50	66
Utd World Chin	73	71	71.50	71.50

Tokyo
Nikkei 225: 18551.66 Previous: 18352.14

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Ajinomoto	1010	987	1010	975
All Nippon Air	737	713	727	710
Amway	3550	3450	3550	3430
Asahi Bank	807	801	801	782
Asahi Chem	707	681	699	671
Asahi Glass	1120	1100	1110	1110
Bk Tokyo Mitsu	2010	1980	2010	1970
Bk Yokohama	530	521	521	525
Bridgestone	2500	2450	2490	2460
Canon	2780	2740	2770	2750
Chubu Elec	2110	2090	2090	2080
Chugoku Elec	2090	2060	2080	2080
Dai Nipp Print	2230	2190	2220	2210
Daiei	615	599	605	594
Dai-Ichi Kang	1410	1380	1390	1350
Daiwa Bank	420	406	418	415
Daiwa House	1440	1410	1440	1400
Daiwa Sec	823	788	808	785
DDI	8540a	8240a	8390a	8570a
Denso	2640	2580	2620	2590
East Japan Ry	5480a	5420a	5480a	5460a
Eisai	2190	2170	2190	2190
Fanuc	4230	4150	4230	4200
Fuji Bank	1510	1470	1500	1480
Fuji Photo	4370	4320	4360	4310
Fujitsu	1290	1270	1280	1280
Hachijuni Bk	1150	1140	1150	1140
Hitachi	1150	1130	1150	1130
Honda Motor	3720	3650	3710	3650
IBJ	1340	1290	1310	1270
IHI	484	470	484	472
Itochu	577	552	577	549
Ito-Yokado	6110	5980	5990	6060
JAL	500	494	499	473
Japan Tobacco	8250a	8200a	8240a	8190a
Jusco	3720	3620	3720	3610
Kajima	556	535	542	530
Kansai Elec	2200	2180	2190	2200
Kao	1340	1310	1340	1310
Kawasaki Hvy	503	492	496	501
Kawa Steel	372	367	372	371
Kinki Nipp Ry	714	707	711	713
Kirin Brewery	1010	995	1010	979
Kobe Steel	223	216	222	216
Komatsu	897	882	896	881
Kubota	562	545	560	547
Kyocera	7390	7350	7390	7350
Kyushu Elec	2000	1980	1990	1960
LTCB	379	371	377	375
Marubeni	477	468	477	467
Marui	2090	2030	2030	1950
Matsu Comm	3120	3070	3110	3100
Matsu Elec Ind	1990	1970	1990	1970
Matsu Elec Wk	1200	1170	1170	1190
Mitsubishi	1180	1140	1170	1140
Mitsubishi Ch	428	419	423	418
Mitsubishi El	717	700	710	695
Mitsubishi Est	1530	1490	1520	1500
Mitsubishi Hvy	845	815	845	810
Mitsubishi Mat	915	904	907	905
Mitsubishi Tr	1350	1290	1330	1280
Mitsui	927	922	927	922
Mitsui Fudosn	1420	1390	1420	1390
Mitsui Trust	687	671	680	662
Murata Mfg	4530	4450	4500	4470
NEC	1500	1480	1490	1500
Nikon	1780	1760	1780	1770
Nikko Sec	680	646	671	642
Nintendo	9050	8670	9050	9010
Nipp Express	853	833	845	833
Nippon Oil	556	541	556	541
Nippon Steel	365	359	365	358
Nissan Motor	760	742	760	741
NKK	268	261	268	258
Nomura Sec	1310	1280	1290	1290
NTT	8910a	8830a	8890a	8870a
NTT Data	3510b	3460b	3510b	3500b
Oji Paper	619	601	617	600
Osaka Gas	298	292	294	297
Ricoh	1470	1440	1460	1450
Rohm	9220	9220	9220	9100
Sakura Bk	714	699	705	690
Sankyo	3290	3250	3280	3260
Sanwa Bank	1380	1360	1370	1350
Sanyo Elec	468	457	467	452
Secom	7200	7070	7190	7250
Seibu Rwy	5930	5900	5930	5850
Sekisui Chem	1200	1150	1180	1140
Sekisui House	1130	1100	1120	1110
Seven-Eleven	7820	7760	7810	7760
Sharp	1550	1520	1540	1520
Shikoku El Pwr	1940	1910	1920	1920
Shimizu	592	568	586	558
Shin-etsu Ch	2450	2430	2430	2430
Shiseido	1610	1590	1600	1600
Shizuoka Bk	1140	1110	1140	1110
Softbank	8100	7910	7920	7830
Sony	8950	8810	8950	8850
Sumitomo	860	832	849	840
Sumitomo Bk	1500	1480	1490	1460
Sumit Chem	520	510	520	509
Sumitomo Elec	1710	1700	1700	1710
Sumit Metal	305	300	304	298
Sumit Trust	1070	1020	1050	1010
Taisho Pharm	2960	2930	2960	2960
Takeda Chem	2770	2740	2770	2790
TDK	8880	8690	8880	8680
Tohoku El Pwr	2000	1970	1980	1970
Tokai Bank	937	920	932	910
Tokio Marine	1240	1210	1230	1220
Tokyo El Pwr	2230	2190	2210	2220
Tokyo Electron	4550	4500	4540	4540
Tokyo Gas	303	294	300	297
Tokyu Corp.	639	628	639	627
Tonen	1210	1190	1200	1200
Toppan Print	1640	1590	1640	1590
Toray Ind	775	767	767	767
Toshiba	712	703	707	703
Tostem	2780	2760	2760	2710
Toyo Trust	808	767	790	766
Toyota Motor	3360	3310	3350	3350
Yamanouchi	2650	2630	2650	2640

a: x 100; b: x 1,000

Toronto
TSE Industrials: 5811.72 Previous: 5826.27

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Abitibi Price	22.10	21.85	22.05	21.85
Alberta Energy	29.45	29	29.30	29.05
Alcan Alum	45.45	44.85	44.95	45.10
Anderson Expl	16.90	16.60	16.60	16.70
Bk Montreal	48½	48.15	48¼	48.30
Bk Nova Scotia	51¼	51¼	51.30	51.35
Barrick Gold	33.10	32.65	33	32.60
BCE	63.30	62¼	63	63.05
BC Telecomm	29.60	29¼	29.35	29.60
Biochem Pharm	26¼	22	23	25¼
Bombardier B	27¼	27	27.15	27
Brascan A	30.35	30	30.20	30.05
Bre-X Minerals	2.48	2.33	2¼	2.49
Cameco	50	47¾	47.95	49
CIBC	31.80	31.35	31.70	31.45
Cdn Natl Rail	49.40	49.10	49.35	49.30
Cdn Nat Res	34	33¼	33¾	34.10
Cdn Occid Pet	27¼	27	27	27¼
Cdn Pacific	33.40	32.90	32.90	33¼
Cominco	36.90	35¾	36½	35¾
Dofasco	24.05	23.90	24	24.05
Domtar	11.20	11.05	11.20	10.95
Donohue A	26	25.60	25.80	25.65
Du Pont Cda A	31½	31.35	31½	31.95
Edper Group	23.05	22.90	22.95	23.05
Euronev Mng	42.15	41½	41.85	41.70
Fairfax Finl	298½	296½	298	297½
Falconbridge	28.20	27.95	28	28.05
Fletcher Chall A	21½	21¼	21½	21.90
Franco Nevada	67.45	67.10	67.45	67.10
Gulf Cda Res	9½	9.35	9.45	9.40
Imperial Oil	63.30	63	63	63.20
Inco	44.05	43.80	43.80	43.60
IPL Energy	40.95	40.85	40.85	40.95
Laidlaw B	18.45	18.30	18.35	18.35
Loewen Group	40	38½	38.80	40
Macmill Bldl	19.60	19.35	19.35	19½
Magna Intl A	71	69.65	69¾	70.60
Methanex	12.30	12.15	12¼	12.15
Moore	28.20	27.80	27.85	28.15
Newbridge Net	40½	39.55	39.70	40.70
Noranda Inc	29¼	29	29.20	29.15
Norcen Energy	28	27.60	27.90	27.65
Nthern Telecom	93.10	91.95	92.45	92.80
Nova	11.35	11.20	11.30	11.20
Onex	23	22½	22½	23.15
Pancan Petlm	56.35	55½	56	56.35
Petro Cda	21.60	21.35	21.35	21.30
Placer Dome	23.55	23.15	23.40	23
Poco Petlm	13.90	13.65	13¾	13.65
Potash Sask	106	99.85	105	106
Renaissance	40½	40.15	40.40	40.35
Rio Algom	36	34	34.35	35.80
Rogers Cantel B	24	23½	24	23.10
Seagram Co	52.85	51½	51.60	52.40
Shell Cda A	55	54½	54.85	54.95
Stone Consold	22.10	22	22.10	21.80
Suncor Energy	64	63½	63.85	63.70
Talisman Eny	40¾	40¼	40.65	40.55
Teck B	29.10	28.95	29	29
Teleglobe	39.65	39.30	39.35	39.60
Telus	19½	19.40	19½	19.40
Thomson	28¾	28.10	28.35	28.10
TorDom Bank	38	37.80	37.85	37.85
Transalta	15.60	15.45	15.55	15.60
TransCda Pipe	26.10	25.65	25.70	26
Trimark Finl	42	41.80	41.80	41.85
Trizec Hahn	29.90	29.80	29.85	29.90
TVX Gold	9.05	8.85	8.95	8.85
Westcoast Eny	24½	24¼	24.30	24.45
Weston	74	73½	73½	73½

Vienna
ATX Index: 1194.14 Previous: 1191.93

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Boehler-Uddeh	843.90	837	838	837.80
Creditanst Pfd	460	456	457	461
EA-Generali	3180	3120	3125	3139
EVN	1600	1575	1578	1579
Flughafen Wien	521.30	513.30	514.80	517.95
OMV	1354	1301.50	1332.10	1319.90
Oest Elektriz	848.80	843.50	848	845.20
VA Stahl	491.80	485.20	490.30	492
VA Tech	1846	1795	1800	1824
Wienerberg Bau	2284	2210	2250	2189

Wellington
NZSE-40 Index: 2252.30 Previous: 2257.31

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Air N Zeald B	4.02	4.02	4.02	4.02
Brierly Invt	1.30	1.29	1.30	1.29
Carter Holt ord	3.19	3.15	3.15	3.19
Fletch Ch Bldg	4.08	4.05	4.06	4.08
Fletch Ch Eny	4.20	4.16	4.17	4.22
Fletch Ch Forst	1.88	1.87	1.88	1.88
Fletch Ch Paper	2.91	2.90	2.90	2.91
Lion Nathan	3.45	3.45	3.45	3.48
Telecom NZ	6.56	6.52	6.53	6.56
Wilson Horton	11.50	11.50	11.50	11.40

Zurich
SPI Index: 2990.31 Previous: 2969.22

	High	Low	Close	Prev.
ABB B	1748	1711	1748	1709
Adecco B	476	473	475.50	475
Alusuisse R	1200	1182	1196	1185
Ares-Serono B	1980	1840	1980	1835
Atel R	866	866	866	866
Baer Hdg B	1715	1705	1715	1715
Baloise Hdg R	2920	2885	2915	2890
BK Vision	880	870	876	874
Clariant R	820	809	815	807
Cred Suisse Gp R	165.50	163.75	164.75	165
Elektrowatt B	533	532	533	533
Ems-Chemie	5910	5850	5900	5885
ESEC Hdg	4325	4220	4325	4250
Holderbank B	1163	1149	1163	1163
Liechtenst LB B	475	473	475	473
Nestle R	1785	1758	1775	1769
Novartis R	1899	1868	1885	1890
Oerlikn Bueh R	149.25	145	146.75	148
Pargesa Hld B	1745	1726	1730	1739
PharmVisn B	709	697	706	695
Richemont A	2075	2040	2060	2051
Pirelli PC	232	226	231.75	229
Roche Hdg PC	11930	11515	11900	11505
SBC R	306.50	299	305.50	299.50
Schindler PC	1844	1802	1803	1832
SGS B	3050	3000	3030	3045
SMH B	803	797	799	799
Sulzer R	1030	1009	1015	1012
Swiss Reins R	1589	1562	1587	1552
Swissair R	1360	1346	1348	1349
UBS B	1338	1327	1334	1333
Winterthur R	1028	1015	1023	1021
Zurich Assur R	464.50	453.50	458.50	455

The Trib Index

Prices as of 3:00 P.M. New York time.

Jan. 1, 1992 = 100.	Level	Change	% change	year to date % change
World Index	150.55	+0.68	+0.45	+0.95
Regional Indexes				
Asia/Pacific	109.81	+1.40	+1.29	-11.03
Europe	160.57	+1.08	+0.68	-0.39
N. America	172.81	-0.40	-0.23	+6.73
S. America	139.76	-0.01	-0.01	+22.14
Industrial Indexes				
Capital goods	178.59	+0.82	+0.46	+4.49
Consumer goods	171.69	-0.45	-0.26	+6.36
Energy	176.93	+1.29	+0.73	+3.64
Finance	110.20	+1.56	+1.44	-5.38
Miscellaneous	154.80	+1.36	+0.89	-4.31
Raw Materials	180.27	+1.98	+1.12	+2.79
Service	141.10	-0.15	-0.11	+2.75
Utilities	130.91	+0.57	+0.44	-8.75

The International Herald Tribune World Stock Index © tracks the U.S. dollar values of 280 internationally investable stocks from 25 countries. For more information, a free booklet is available by writing to The Trib Index, 181 Avenue Charles de Gaulle, 92521 Neuilly Cedex, France. *Compiled by Bloomberg News.*

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a - asked + - Offer Prices; N.A. - Not Available; N.C. - Not Communicated; o- New; S - suspended; SIS - stock Split; * - Ex-Dividend; ** - Ex-Rts; - @ Offer Price incl. 3% prelim. charge; - - Parts exchange; ++ -Amsterdam exchange; o - unquoted series; x-not registered with regulatory authority; P: Middle of bid and offered price. E: estimated price; y: price calculated 2 days prior to publication; z: bid price.

The marginal symbols indicate frequency of quotations supplied: (d) - daily; (w) - weekly; (b) - bi-monthly; (f) - fortnightly; (r) - regularly; (t) - twice weekly; (m) - monthly.

999 Other Funds

[illegible]

Honda To U.S.

Malaysia Firm to Bu

STRATEGY: AT&T's Glo

Continued from Page 11

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Daewoo Opens New Car Plant

Korean Firm Sees Growth Overseas

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

KUNSAN, South Korea — Daewoo Motors Co. opened a $1.2 billion plant Monday even as some analysts warned that a saturated domestic market and growing competition in overseas markets could slash sales and increase inventories.

Korea's top three automakers — Hyundai Motor Co., Kia Motors Corp. and Daewoo — plan to double annual car production capacity to 7 million units by 2000, betting on growth in developing markets such as China and Russia.

"Overcapacity is not a major problem," said Kim Woo Choong, chairman of Daewoo Group. He said auto markets in developing nations were growing by at least 5 percent a year.

In addition, Daewoo Motors plans this year to start exporting cars to the United States, where it hopes to sell 30,000 cars this year and 100,000 cars next year through a direct dealership network.

Daewoo had exported cars to the United States through General Motors Corp. until GM withdrew its 50 percent stake in the carmaker in 1992 after managerial disputes.

The Kunsan plant has an annual production capacity of 320,000 vehicles, bringing the company's annual domestic production capacity to 1 million vehicles. Daewoo also makes about 500,000 vehicles a year overseas. Kim Tae Goo, chairman of Daewoo Motors, said the company would increase its total vehicle production capacity worldwide to 2.5 million by 2000 to become one of the world's top 10 automakers.

Mr. Kim reiterated that his company still wanted to acquire Thomson Multimedia if the French government gave it a second chance.

"I believe the French government will give us a second chance, and if that is the case, we will apply," he said.

(Bloomberg, AFP, Reuters)

■ **Bailout for Jinro Affiliates**

Six affiliates of Jinro Group have been designated for "normalization" and will be bailed out, the group's prime creditor, the Commercial Bank of Korea said Monday, Reuters reported from Seoul.

The six firms are Jinro Ltd., Jinro Industries Co., Jinro General Foods Co., Jinro-Coors Brewing Co., Jinro Construction Co. and Jinro Mass Merchandising Inc., the bank said.

Computers That Speak, in Any Voice

By Andrew Pollack
New York Times Service

TOKYO — Researchers in Japan are developing electronic impersonators — computer systems that can speak in a particular person's voice.

The systems, which will take some years to perfect, start with an actual recording of a person and break it down into individual sounds, such as those of syllables or letters. The computer can then string these sound elements together in new sequences to utter sentences in the person's voice that the person never actually said.

"If we have a recording of your voice we can make you say almost anything," said Nick Campbell, who leads a group that has developed such a system at ATR Interpreting Telecommunications Research Laboratories in Kyoto, which is supported by Japan's government and industry.

In the future, people might choose a "voice font" in which to listen to computer speech in much the same way they now choose a type font for printing out a document. A traveling businessman might have his electronic mail read to him over the phone in the sultry voice of Marlene Dietrich or the crisp English of Sir John Gielgud or perhaps in the voice of the sender or his secretary.

With the electronic impersonators and sophisticated computer animation, actors and actresses who have died might be able to appear in new movies. Books on tape could be made without the person having to read the entire book out loud.

But the technology could also have many nefarious uses, such as framing or blackmailing someone with a fake "recording." People can no longer absolutely trust photographs and videotape because images can be digitally doctored. Now, the same doubts will extend to voice recordings.

New legal questions are also likely to arise over the extent to which voices can be protected from exploitation by others. Voices themselves cannot be protected by copyright, which applies to created expressions, said Joseph Beard, a professor at St. John's University School of Law in New York.

Soon you may be able to have your phone messages read to you by Marlene Dietrich.

But many states have laws protecting a celebrity's image, including his or her voice, from being used for commercial purposes without permission, he said.

The speech systems being developed at ATR and elsewhere are aimed not at impersonation but at improving the quality of synthetic speech.

Such speech is already used for numerous purposes, from car navigation systems to systems that allow people to receive bank account balances and stock quotes over the phone. Text-to-speech converters allow words on a computer screen to be read aloud, such as to the blind. In the future, some experts predict, people will converse with their computers as naturally as they talk to a friend.

But one problem now is that while synthetic speech is quite intelligible, it sounds artificial. "Customers don't like the unnatural sound and quality," said Lawrence Rabiner, vice president of speech and image processing services at AT&T Laboratories in Murray Hill, New Jersey.

A possible solution: use a real person's voice to make the speech sound more natural. Indeed, AT&T Corp. has just licensed the technology developed by ATR, which stands for Advanced Telecommunications Research.

Real recordings are already used when a machine is required to speak only a limited number of possible sentences, such as in a voice mail system. But when there are too many possible phrases to record them all, such as for a system that will read text aloud, synthetic speech must be used.

One approach to this has been to use various rules to try to create the proper sound waves. The sentences tend to come out smoothly but the voice is clearly artificial.

The other approach, used by ATR, is concatenation, which involves stitching together recorded sounds into new combinations — making new sound bites out of sound bytes, so to speak.

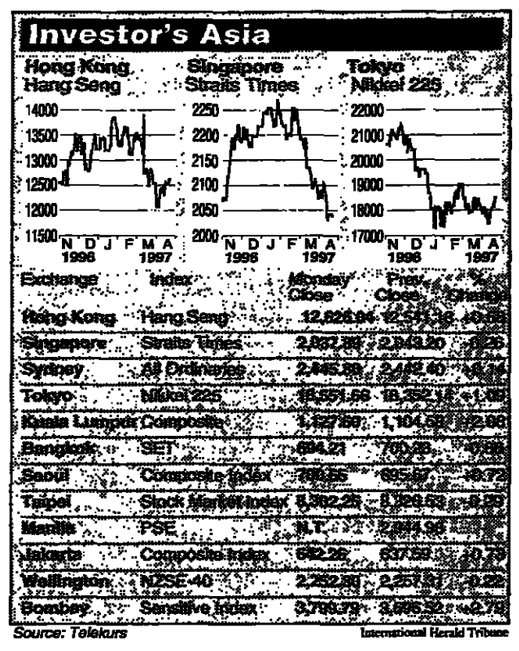
The ATR system, known as Chatr, requires an hour of recorded speech from the person whose voice is being copied. The computer breaks this speech down into basic sound elements — such as the "c," the "a" and "t" sounds in cat.

Then, in making sentences, the computer chooses the example of each sound that will flow together most naturally with its neighboring sounds and will produce the proper intonation. It takes only seconds for the computer to speak a sentence after it is typed in.

It is still possible to tell that Chatr is a machine. Although it unmistakably reproduces a person's voice, the pacing is not natural and the connections between sound bits is not always seamless. (Hear for yourself at http://www.itl.atr.co.jp/chatr.)

Mark Liberman, a professor of linguistics and computer science at the University of Pennsylvania, said there are other speech concatenation systems, such as one developed by France Telecom's research laboratory. But many of these systems modify the recorded sound elements to make them chain together more smoothly, so that the synthetic speech does not sound exactly like the original voice. The ATR system is unique in that no modification is made to the recorded voice, he said.

Investor's Asia



Exchange	Index	Monday Close	Prev. Close	% Change
Hong Kong	Hang Seng	12,828.94	12,[illegible]	[illegible]
Singapore	Straits Times	2,037.39	2,043.20	[illegible]
Sydney	All Ordinaries	2,445.20	2,442.40	[illegible]
Tokyo	Nikkei 225	19,551.68	19,352.[illegible]	[illegible]
Kuala Lumpur	Composite	1,127.60	1,104.[illegible]	[illegible]
Bangkok	SET	694.21	700.[illegible]	[illegible]
Seoul	Composite Index	[illegible]	695.[illegible]	[illegible]
Taipei	Stock Market Index	8,382.25	8,[illegible]	[illegible]
Manila	PSE	N.T.	[illegible]	[illegible]
Jakarta	Composite Index	682.26	637.[illegible]	[illegible]
Wellington	NZSE-40	2,252.80	2,257.[illegible]	[illegible]
Bombay	Sensitive Index	3,799.79	3,[illegible]	[illegible]

Source: Telekurs — International Herald Tribune

Very briefly:

• **Indonesia** said it would proceed with its "national car" program despite Japan's plans to seek a World Trade Organization ruling on the issue. Indonesia's national car policy gives **PT Timor Putra Nasional**, controlled by President Suharto's youngest son, Hutomo Mandala Putra, tax and tariff breaks to produce the Timor car in association with **Kia Motors Corp.** of South Korea.

• **Japan's** leading index of economic activity stood at 44.4 points in February, unchanged from January and below the boom-or-bust line of 50 points for the second consecutive month, the economic planning agency said.

• **Hong Leong Corp.** of Singapore said it was forming a $40 million joint venture with **AMF Bowling Worldwide** of the United States to build and operate 20 bowling centers in the Philippines, Malaysia, Vietnam, Indonesia, Thailand and China.

• Nine current and former executives of the Japanese department store operator **Takashimaya Co.** agreed to pay a total of 170 million yen ($1.35 million) to the company in compensation for payoffs to gangsters.

• **The Philippines** said its budget deficit shrank 58 percent in the first quarter of 1997, thanks to lower-than-expected debt payments because of lower interest rates. The Bureau of the Treasury said the deficit totaled 648 million pesos ($24.6 million) in the three months ended March 31.

• **American Express Co.** said its Australian unit would introduce its first credit card, charging a 13.85 percent interest rate.

• **Ingersoll-Rand Co.** said it had formed a joint venture with Wuxi Boiler Works to make road building equipment for use in China's general construction and infrastructure development industries.

• **South Korea** said that foreign direct investment jumped 372 percent in the first three months of 1997 from a year ago, to $2.12 billion, spurred by the country's deregulation drive, officials said.

Reuters, AFP, Bloomberg

Honda's Exports To U.S. Soaring

Bloomberg News

TOKYO — Honda Motor Co. said Monday its exports to the United States nearly doubled in March from a year earlier as Honda tried to meet demand for its new CR-V sport-utility vehicle and its Civic compact sedan.

Honda exported 19,600 vehicles to the United States in March, a 98 percent jump from a year earlier.

Demand for the CR-V, which went on sale in January, pushed up sales, a Honda spokesman said. "This is a totally new model, so demand is still big," he said.

Honda also increased exports of the Civic compact sedan "because factories in North America can't meet demand," the spokesman said.

Stock in Honda rose 60 yen, to 3,710 yen ($29.47).

Honda plans to sell 1 million vehicles in North America this year, about 900,000 of which will be sold in the United States.

The company's annual North American production capacity is 800,000 vehicles. It will make up the difference with imports from Japan.

Petron Acts to Face Deregulation

Bloomberg News

MANILA — Petron Corp., the Philippines' largest oil refiner, gearing up for increased competition, announced plans Monday to increase the size of its distribution network and spend more on advertising.

Petron said it would spend 5.4 billion pesos ($204.9 million) this year, most of it on new gas stations and increased advertising, in response to the oil industry's recent deregulation.

"The name of the game is being accessible," said Ali Ajmi, Petron's president.

Mr. Ajmi also said the company could make another round of staff reductions. Last year, Petron reduced its work force by 25 percent, to 1,269.

As part of wide-ranging reforms to deregulate the economy, the Philippines ended more than two decades of fuel price controls in February. That opened the industry to competition from foreign companies like Petroleum Authority of Thailand and France's Total SA, which plan to set up gasoline retailing outlets.

Petron plans to add 40 gas stations to its 992-outlet network and to refurbish 40 stations.

But many analysts remain skeptical about Petron's prospects. Its two long-standing rivals, Pilipinas Shell Petroleum Corp. and Caltex Philippines Inc., have already stepped up their advertising and completed upgrades to their gas-station networks in Manila.

"Deregulation effectively ends the Philippines' history of guaranteed profit margins," said Regina Manzano, analyst at Philippine Asia Equity Securities Inc.

Petron officials said its low costs, and its partnership with Saudi Aramco, the world's largest oil producer, would ensure its continued dominance of the industry.

Singapore Sees Smaller Drop In Its Exports

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

SINGAPORE — Singapore's non-oil exports fell 2.1 percent in March, figures released Monday showed, a smaller decline than many economists expected.

The Trade Development Board said exports of non-oil goods fell to 7.67 billion Singapore dollars ($5.3 billion) in March from a year ago, after falling 7.9 percent in February.

Economists said the data indicated the economy was on track for recovery in the second half of the year. Non-oil exports are closely monitored as an indicator of the health of the island nation. Electronics and related products make up the majority of Singapore's exports.

Singapore's growth slowed to 7 percent last year from 8.8 percent in 1995 as slower export demand crimped production. The government expects growth of 5 percent to 7 percent this year. *(Reuters, Bloomberg)*

Malaysia Firm to Buy Thai Broker

Bloomberg News

BANGKOK — Amsteel Capital Holdings of Malaysia agreed Monday to buy First Asia Securities PLC of Thailand in the latest in what may be a string of foreign forays into the ailing Thai securities industry.

Amsteel Capital will buy 99.6 percent of the firm from Securities One PLC for an undisclosed amount.

The agreement is the latest move by a foreign company to invest in the Thai securities industry, whose mounting financial problems opened the door to foreigners looking to enter the restricted market cheaply.

Amsteel Capital has been seeking a foothold in Thailand for several years, investment bankers said. It already has units in Indonesia, Hong Kong and the Philippines.

The company is a unit of Amsteel Corp., one of the Lion group of companies controlled by William Cheng, a Malaysian financier. Amsteel has interests in retailing, steelmaking, property development and stockbroking.

Amsteel essentially is buying only First Asia's securities license, because the Thai company's staff and most assets have been absorbed into Securities One during the past year.

Shares of Amsteel Corp. closed up 8 sen (3 cents), at 2.02 ringgit, on the Kuala Lumpur Stock Exchange. At the close of trading in Bangkok, shares of Securities One had fallen 1 baht (3.8 cents) to 26.5 baht.

STRATEGY: *AT&T's Global Plan Unraveling*

Continued from Page 11

AT&T's World Partners program is "more like a membership council, and the membership council does not hold the keys of investment," Mr. Goodree said.

AT&T said that it was disappointed in Telefonica's departure but that it was confident that the remaining Unisource partners — carriers in the Netherlands, Sweden and Switzerland — would continue their drive toward offering pan-European service. Still, John Legere, the company's vice president for global strategy, conceded that the company was grappling with how to improve ties with its overseas partners.

"The issue is sustainability," he said. "As technology changes, as markets liberalize, as product cycles tend to quicken — how do you solidify that relationship so you're moving in lockstep with new innovations?"

Mr. Legere would not say how AT&T intended to do that.

Berge Ayvazian, an analyst for the Yankee Group in Boston, said that responsibility rested with John Walter, AT&T's president and the anointed successor to the company's chairman, Robert Allen.

"AT&T is at a turning point," Mr. Ayvazian said. "John Walter has taken only a domestic operating role and has not jumped onto the world stage, where AT&T has been flailing. They need to send him on a diplomatic mission to make these personal relationships. Until now, he's neglected the international."

The three big telecommunications alliances are likely to shift their attention to Asia next, where AT&T has made the most progress but has yet to enter an ironclad relationship with a major carrier.

AT&T's World Partners include Hong Kong Telecom and KDD, the Japanese competitor to Nippon Telegraph & Telephone Corp., but those relationships are not exclusive.

Cable & Wireless PLC, Britain's main competitor to BT, owns a majority stake of Hong Kong Telecom. So far, Cable & Wireless has remained on the deal-making sidelines, as has NTT, an even bigger prize. But Mr. Ayvazian said that might not last much longer.

"If anything," he said, "NTT is going to be impressed with what BT and MCI have accomplished."

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On Wednesday, May 28, 1997,
as the 50th anniversary of The Marshall Plan approaches,
the International Herald Tribune will publish a Special Report on

The Marshall Plan and its Legacy

Among the distinguished contributors will be:

■ **Stephen E. Ambrose**, presidential historian and best-selling author, will provide a look back at the plan – its birth and the motives, vision and politics that drove one of the century's boldest moves.

■ **Josef Joffe**, the widely respected foreign editor and columnist of the Suddeutsche Zeitung, will look back at the Plan's impact on a defeated Germany, how it may have helped shape the post-war personality of its people and the nation itself, what endures today, and whether the same concepts that made such movements necessary 50 years ago can work today in the east and elsewhere.

■ **Michel Crozier**, French sociologist and author, who studied at Harvard as a young man under Marshall Plan funding, will bring alive both the reality of the immediate post-war years in France and central Europe as the continent struggled for momentum and the perspective of Europe 50 years later.

■ **U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright** will write about what she sees as the Marshall Plan's relevance today, as governments seek a new departure for post-cold war Europe.

■ **Art Buchwald**, humorist and columnist, who chronicled the high-jinks and low-jinks of post-war Paris for the International Herald Tribune for so many years, will remind us of what it was like there in the late 1940s and early 1950s when Americans resumed their love affair with France and poured dollars, movies and lots of other things into the continent.

■ **Flora Lewis**, the distinguished former columnist of The New York Times, will reflect upon the truly revolutionary aspect of the Plan, which was not really the ability to finance it but rather the imposition of cooperation, the forcing of a new way of working together upon countries and markets.

■ **Joseph Fitchett**, the IHT's veteran political correspondent, will take us through the colorful yet less grand aspects of these amazing 50 years. The by-products of the Plan were extraordinary, everything from apple orchards in France to the expansion of U.S. covert action to penetrate French Communist trade unions.

■ **Barry James**, another venerable IHT correspondent, will remind us of the different ways that European countries – especially France, Italy and the UK – responded to the plan and to each other, how that era provided a glimpse of attitudes that still prevail today, and how one European in particular, Jean Monnet, sought to turn these disparate efforts and attitudes into lasting political achievements and European institutions.

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WORLD ROUNDUP

AP

Nick Price acknowledging the applause after making a birdie.

Price Ends Drought

GOLF Nick Price won his first PGA Tour title since the 1994 Canadian Open, shooting a 5-under-par 66 on Sunday to complete a six-stroke victory in the MCI Classic at Hilton Head Island.

Price finished 15-under par on 269. Jesper Parnevik and Brad Faxon tied for second. Price said the victory was for caddy Jeff (Squeeky) Medlen who is suffering from leukemia had a bone-marrow transplant last week.

Tom Lehman tied for fourth, which was enough to move him into top place when the world rankings were announced on Monday. Lehman ended Greg Norman's 96-week streak at No. 1.

• Hale Irwin retained his title in the PGA Seniors' Championship Sunday, shooting a 4-under-par 68 for a 12-stroke victory over Jack Nicklaus and Dale Douglass. *(AP)*

Kenyan First in Boston

MARATHON Lameck Aguta of Kenya won the Boston Marathon on Monday, pulling away from compatriot Joseph Kamau with a mile to go to finish in 2 hours, 10 minutes, 33 seconds.

Fatuma Roba of Ethiopia, the Olympic champion, won the women's race in an unofficial time of 2:26:24. South Africans Elana Meyer and Colleen De Reuck finished second and third. *(AP)*

Costa Wins in Barcelona

TENNIS Albert Costa brushed aside fellow Spaniard Albert Portas, 7-5, 6-4, 6-4, Monday in the final of the Barcelona Open. Portas, a qualifier, was playing his first best-of-five-set match. *(Reuters)*

6 Wickets for Spinner

CRICKET Sri Lankan spinner Muthiah Muralitharan took a career best six wickets for 98 Monday but could not prevent Pakistan from gaining a first innings lead on the third day of the first test in Colombo. Pakistan reached 390 for nine wickets by the close.

• Mohammed Azharuddin reached 5,000 test runs Monday as the fifth test between India and the West Indies moved toward a draw in Georgetown. Azharuddin was out for 31, and India was 301 for five wickets in its first innings at lunch on the final day. *(Reuters)*

Webber Lets Loose, And the Bullets Fly

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

With 10 minutes remaining in the third quarter of Sunday's game against the Cleveland Cavaliers, the Washington Bullets came to realization that they were fighting for their playoff lives.

The point was driven home, emphatically, by forward Chris Webber, who

NBA ROUNDUP

implored his teammates to "Show some (expletive) emotion."

Shaking off their jitters, the Bullets responded, and in the process ended the NBA's longest postseason drought. Washington's 85-81 victory secured the team's first playoff berth in nine years.

As a reward, Washington must face Michael Jordan and the defending champion Chicago Bulls in a best-of-five game series.

"I'm not even thinking about Chicago right now — I just want to enjoy this," said Rod Strickland, the Washington point guard, who had 19 points and nine assists. Webber led the team with 23 points and 17 rebounds, but his shining moment may have been his court-side exhortation.

"I was just so nervous — for a lot of the game I couldn't even talk on the bench," he said. "Coach told me to calm down, but at that point I just had to let loose."

The Bullets had entered the final game of the regular season with a one-game lead over Cleveland for the eighth and final playoff spot in the Eastern Conference. But Cleveland, through a tiebreaker, would have earned the berth with a victory.

Juwan Howard ended a 3-for-13 shooting drought by sinking a turnaround jumper from the foul line to give Washington an 84-80 lead with 13.3 seconds to play. "For three years, I've had to sit on losing, and that's not easy to do," said Webber, who made the postseason for the first time since his rookie year with Golden State.

Howard had 11 points. Calbert Cheaney had nine points, including a dunk and three-point play in the crucial closing minutes.

Bucks 120, Hornets 100 In Milwaukee, Vin Baker scored 31 points on 13-of-13 shooting as the Bucks, who missed the playoffs for the sixth straight season, crushed the playoff bound Charlotte.

"I don't think the guys cared one way or another," said Dave Cowens, the Charlotte coach. "We were kind of in-between, whether we cared about winning this game and solidifying fifth place to play the Hawks, or just slipping one game and playing New York."

Trail Blazers 100, Lakers 96 In Portland, the Lakers were down, 98-96, when Clifford Robinson clobbered Shaquille O'Neal as he went up for a layup. The Blazers then called timeout to let O'Neal, a notoriously poor free-throw shooter, think about the pressure. O'Neal had shot much better from the line since coming back from a knee injury and was 2-for-3 in the game. But his first attempt was far off, and he had to miss the second one to give the Lakers a shot. But Robinson grabbed the rebound, was fouled and made two free throws with less than a second left to give the Blazers victory.

Rockets 103, Spurs 99 In San Antonio, Hakeem Olajuwon scored 27 points and Charles Barkley added 24 for Houston, which never trailed in the second half but could not pull away.

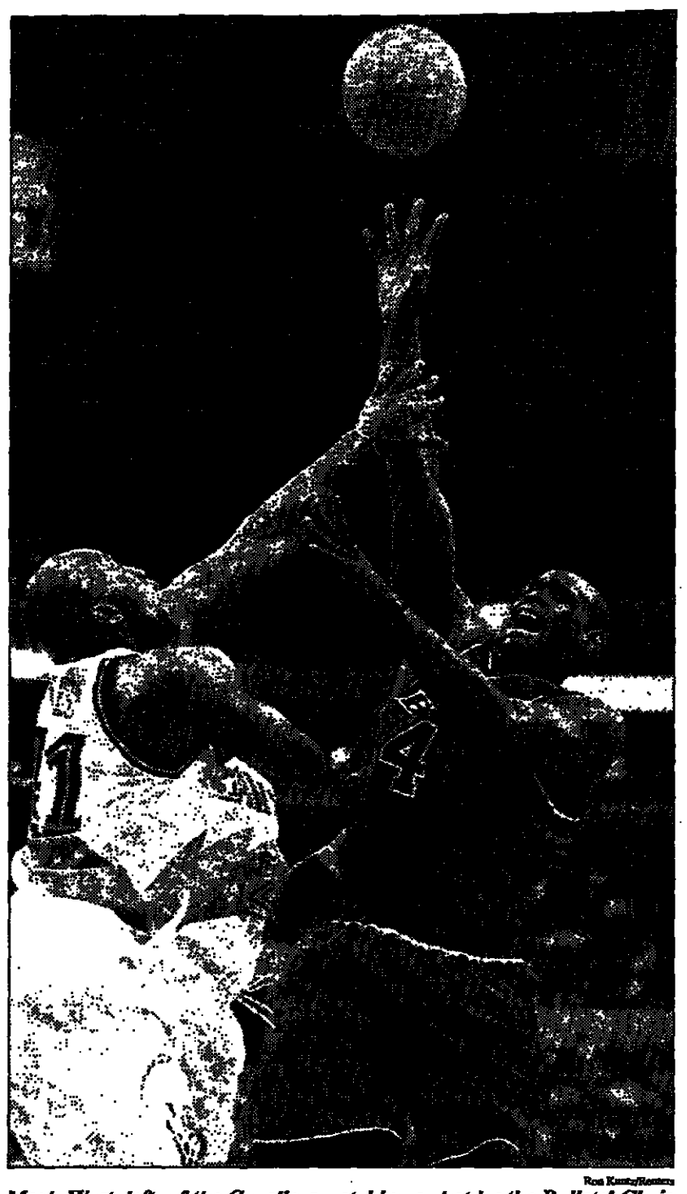
Nets 108, Hawks 92 Jim Jackson had 25 points, 10 rebounds and 12 assists for his second triple-double for New Jersey this month. Atlanta coach's, Lenny Wilkens, rested his starters and reserve Alan Henderson led Atlanta with a career-high 19 points.

Pistons 124, Pacers 120 In Indianapolis, Grant Hill scored nine of his career-high 38 points in overtime for Detroit.

Jazz 113, Kings 109 In Sacramento, Karl Malone had 18 points and John Stockton had 17 points and 14 assists as Utah beat the Kings.

In a game reported in some editions Sunday:

Raptors 125, Celtics 94 In Boston, Damon Stoudamire scored 32 points for Toronto. *(WP, AP)*



Ron Kuntz/Reuters

Mark West, left, of the Cavaliers watching a shot by the Bullets' Chris Webber soar over his head. Washington won to reach the NBA playoffs.

Playoff Picture Becomes Clear In NBA Finales

The Associated Press

The playoff picture in the National Basketball Association remained cloudy throughout the last day of the regular season.

All the matchups weren't finalized until 9:08 P.M. Sunday when the fifth and sixth seeds in the East were finally set.

The preceding six hours settled the No. 8 spot in the East, the Pacific Division title, the seedings of five teams and the matchups in six of the eight series.

The first matter to be settled Sunday was the eighth and final playoff spot in the East. Washington beat host Cleveland to earn the right to face the Chicago Bulls, the defending champion.

The Los Angeles Lakers would have won the Pacific Division if they had beaten Portland, but Shaquille O'Neal missed two late free throws and the Trail Blazers won at home, 100-96.

That gave the division to Seattle and knocked the Lakers down to the No. 4 seed. They will face the Trail Blazers.

Charlotte and Detroit finished with the same record, 54-28, but the Pistons got the higher seed because they won the season series, 3-1.

Houston beat San Antonio, 103-99, to finish with the same record as Seattle. Even though the Rockets are the No. 3 seed and the Sonics are No. 2, Houston would have the home-court advantage if the teams met in the second round because the Rockets won the season series.

While the playoff teams were worrying about their opponents, some of the nonqualifiers were beginning to clean house. The Philadelphia 76ers fired coach Johnny Davis and general manager Brad Greenberg. On Monday, the Denver Nuggers fired coach Dick Motta.

The Indiana Pacers' coach, Larry Brown, said he would decide whether to leave within 10 days. Donnie Walsh, the general manager, said the team was willing to let Brown out of the last two years of his contract.

In Boston, the Celtics' coach and general manager, M.L. Carr, said he would take a week's vacation before deciding what course his team will take.

In individual statistical races, Michael Jordan won an unprecedented ninth scoring title with an average of 29.6 points.

John Stockton's nine-year run as the NBA's assists leader came to an end as he finished second to Mark Jackson of the Pacers. Jackson averaged 11.4 assists — one more per game than Stockton.

Dennis Rodman, who missed the final 13 games because of a knee injury, won his sixth straight rebounding title with a 16.1 average.

Gheorghe Muresan, the Washington center, had the highest field goal percentage, .604, for the second straight year.

Mark Price of Golden State had the league's best free-throw percentage, at 90.6, for the third time in his career. He beat Cleveland's Terrell Brandon by .001 percentage points.

Mookie Blaylock led the league in steals with an average of 2.71, the lowest leading average since Utah's Rickey Green averaged 2.65 in 1983-84.

Dikembe Mutombo needed eight blocked shots to tie Shawn Bradley for the highest average, 3.40, but had none in the Hawks' meaningless loss at New Jersey. He played just 15 minutes.

The Hornets and Knicks will open the playoffs Thursday night. Other games that night are Orlando at Miami, the Los Angeles Clippers at Utah and Minnesota at Houston.

Basketball Title Is Up in the Air for Europe's Pros

By Ian Thomsen
International Herald Tribune

ROME — Pressure will be the great ally for the underdogs in European basketball's Final Four games this week.

Olimpija Ljubljana, the highly organized champion of Slovenia, must hope that Olympiakos, the Greek champion for four seasons, will be hindered by the clamoring expectations that do not exist in American professional basketball in its semifinal Tuesday night. In the other semifinal another unfancied team, Villeurbanne of France, faces Barcelona, last year's beaten finalist.

In the National Basketball Association finals, the Chicago Bulls can afford to lose the opening game, knowing that they still have time to win the best-of-seven series. Not so in the Final Four of the European championship: The opening game might be the only game for Olympiakos. There will be no second chance if the team loses to Olimpija.

If things go according to plan, Olympiakos should expect to advance to the one-game final Thursday against Barcelona.

In that case, each side would feel deserving of its first European championship. Olympiakos lost the European finals in 1994 and 1995. Barcelona was runner-up last year, though many believe it was robbed of the title by two officiating errors in the final seconds.

Olympiakos is the favorite largely because of its front line. An argument can be made that the top three centers in the Final Four all play for Olympiakos. They are Panagiotis Fassoulas, the top Greek center of all time; Dragan Tarlac, who is expected to be scouted personally by Jerry Krause, general manager of the Chicago Bulls, who own Tarlac's NBA rights; and the German giant Christian Welp, who played in the NBA. Their strength under the basket is balanced by a depth of European talent through the forwards and all the way back to David Rivers, an American who is one of the elite point guards in Europe.

Ljubljana could be a terrific opponent for the Greeks. Ljubljana resembles one of those low-seeded American college teams that mow down the contenders each year in the National Collegiate Athletic Association tournament. The team regularly uses five substitutes, plays a swarming defense and does not depend on one player for its success.

Ljubljana and Villeurbanne will draw faith from Partizan Belgrade, the 1992 champion; Limoges of France, the winner in 1993, and Joventut Badalona, which won in 1995. All of those teams seized the European championship when the apparent favorites couldn't withstand the pressures of the Final Four.

Those pressures are magnified for the big Greek clubs, which pay exorbitant salaries — by European standards — to satisfy their supporters, surely the most fanatical in world basketball.

"A team like Olympiakos knows it has one shot, and that one bad day can ruin it for them," said Delaney Rudd, a former NBA point guard with Villeurbanne. "In our case, I could never have imagined a team like ours being in the Final Four. But now, if a few people on the other teams don't go to sleep the night before the game, if they take a few bad jump shots the next day and they haven't put us away with 10 minutes to go, you could find a little team like ours being champion."

Villeurbanne beat Barcelona twice this season, but both victories came before Barcelona was transformed by its New Year's acquisition of the Aleksandar Djordjevic, a Serbian. Djordjevic, the only non-American starting at point guard in the Final Four, is probably the best clutch player in Europe.

Villeurbanne has been blessed by the return this month of center Ronnie Smith, who has recovered from major knee surgery. He came back after Jim Bilba, the forward who captains the French national team, suffered a terrible injury. Running off the court after Villeurbanne's quarterfinal upset of Efes Pilsen-Istanbul three weeks ago, Bilba tried to push open his locker-room door but shattered a pane of glass in the door instead. The glass severed an artery in his wrist, and he underwent four hours of emergency surgery in Istanbul. He will find out in three months if he can play again.

Olympiakos arrived in Rome without its backup forward Evric Gray, who said he was suspended for failing a recent doping test for the drug ephedrine. Gray, an American, said he had been taking something called "Up Your Gas" — which he described as "an over-the-counter vitamin" — for three years without being aware that he was risking a drug penalty.

Players in the United States are not subjected to the drug tests routinely carried out in most European nations where basketball is played. Gray said he was going to take a news clipping home to show his American friends "that I'm not some druggie — it's not like I was taking cocaine or something like that."

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U.S. Salvages Soccer Tie With Mexico

By Jere Longman
New York Times Service

FOXBORO, Massachusetts — The United States and Mexico have produced a thrillingly bizarre World Cup qualifying game that included two freakish goals and one explusion.

Although goalkeeper Kasey Keller made an awful mistake in the first minute, the United States rallied twice and finally salvaged a 2-2 tie when a Mexican substitute, Nicolas Ramirez, headed the ball into his own goal in the 74th minute.

After a frantic, deflating start, the United States regained its composure, played with purpose in maintaining possession, got assertive defense from Eddie Pope (who also scored) and Alexi Lalas and displayed much-needed speed and flair from a pair of German imports, David Wagner and Michael Mason.

Still, the Americans failed to defeat their fiercest rival at home. The Americans' general lack of speed and creativity was again apparent Sunday.

Even after forward Luis Hernandez was sent off for what, according to Steve Sampson, the U.S. coach, was an undeserved red card on a tackle of Lalas in the 69th minute, the Americans could not put the ball in the net with a man advantage for the final 21 minutes.

Thirty-nine seconds into the game, Keller took a back pass from Lalas and took his time clearing the ball. Carlos Hermosillo closed in on Keller, who kicked the ball straight at Mexico's career scoring leader. The ball struck Hermosillo's forehead, boomeranged over Keller and bounced into the net.

Hermosillo said that the Mexican coach "told us to pressure Keller, that he gets very nervous."

In the 34th minute, Mexico failed to clear a free kick from Reyna. Pope arrived unmarked at the far post and pushed the loose ball past the sliding Mexican goalkeeper, Adolfo Rios, to tie the score.

John Mottern/Agence France-Presse

Eric Wynalda driving past Mexico's Ramon Ramirez in a tied qualifier.

In the 54th minute, Hernandez beat an offside trap and chipped the ball over Keller to put Mexico ahead again.

But in the 74th minute, Ramirez, deep in his own penalty area, attempted to head the ball out of play. Instead he placed the ball perfectly against the bottom of the goalpost and it bounced into the goal.

■ Boca Juniors in Free Fall

Jose Luis Chilavert, the Velez Sarsfield goalkeeper, converted another penalty to send Boca Juniors sliding toward another crisis Sunday.

Chilavert equalized in the 43d minute after Boca took an early lead.

A goal nine minutes from the end by striker Claudio Moriggi gave Velez a 2-1 away victory and left Boca in 13th place.

Boca was jeered off the pitch after losing against opponents who played with 10 men after the 20th minute, when Claudio Husain was shown a red card and expelled.

Unfashionable Colon, a team that has never won a major title, stayed top of the Clausura championship, meanwhile, by beating San Lorenzo, 1-0.

SPORTS

Finally, Cubs Get a Victory

Mets Succumb to Give Chicago a 1-14 Start

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

After opening the season with 14 straight losses, which set a National League record, the Chicago Cubs finally won.

They beat the New York Mets, 4-3, in the second game of a doubleheader Sunday at Shea Stadium, after dropping the first game, 8-2.

In the second game, the Cubs nearly blew a 4-1 lead in the bottom of the ninth. Chicago's closer, Mel Rojas, strained a hamstring in the

BASEBALL ROUNDUP

eighth inning; Turk Wendell took over in the ninth and allowed a hit and a walk.

The Mets' slugger Todd Hundley fouled off six pitches with a 3-2 count before striking out. Then Lance Johnson ripped a two-run double, and the Cubs' precious lead was down to one run.

But Manny Alexander grounded out to shortstop, and the Cubs' players spilled onto the field to shake hands, a simple and significant ritual they had awaited for three weeks.

Chicago's first baseman, Mark Grace, hugged the Cubs' manager, Jim Riggleman, and the Cubs' reliever Bob Patterson handed out cigars in the clubhouse.

Carl Everett hit two home runs in the first game, becoming the fifth player in Mets history to homer from both sides of the plate in the same game.

"It's a brutal start. I don't think this record will ever be broken," Mark Grace of the Cubs said. "You have to play bad to do that."

White Sox 8, Yankees 7 Tony Phillips has drawn more than 1,000 walks in his major-league career. By any standard, however, the walk he drew in the 11th inning that gave Chicago a victory over New York was odd.

Batting with the bases loaded and two out in the bottom of the 11th, Phillips ran the count to 3-1 against reliever Brian Boehringer.

That's when the fun started.

Phillips began stepping in and out of the batter's box and Boehringer began stepping on and off the rubber. The first-base umpire, John Shulock, told both players to get down to business.

Phillips began barking at Shulock and had to be restrained by his first-base coach, Ron Jackson. Shulock said the whole thing was a waste of time.

"That was one of the damn stupid childish games that these men play sometimes," Shulock said.

Boehringer's next pitch was ball four, and Phillips walked to first base to score the winning run.

Giants 2, Marlins 0 Osvaldo Fernandez pitched well, and Jeff Kent and Rick Wilkins hit sacrifice flies as host San Francisco ran its winning streak to nine games.

Rockies 9, Braves 2 Darren Holmes, a reliever making his first major-league start, held hot-hitting Atlanta in check, and Larry Walker and Quinton McCracken had four hits apiece for Colorado.

Expos 5, Phillies 1; Expos 3, Phillies 0 Pedro Martinez, making only his second start of the season, pitched a strong game as visiting Montreal swept Philadelphia in a doubleheader.

Montreal pitchers combined on a three-hitter as the Expos ended a three-game slide with a victory in the opener.

Astros 3, Dodgers 1 Craig Biggio hit two home runs, including a two-out, two-run shot off Tom Candiotti in the eighth inning at Los Angeles.

Pirates 5, Reds 3 Jon Lieber allowed one earned run for the fourth consecutive start as Pittsburgh beat Cincinnati, continuing the Reds' woes on the road.

Padres 8, Cardinals 2 Quilvio Veras, Tony Gwynn and Ken Caminiti each drove in two runs as San Diego beat St. Louis in the finale of the first major-league series in Hawaii.

Orioles 11, Red Sox 1 Jerome Walton got his seventh straight hit for Baltimore, and Jimmy Key shut down Boston at Fenway Park.

Mariners 10, Twins 6 Ken Griffey hit his ninth home run, and Seattle beat Minnesota at the Kingdome.

Tigers 9, Athletics 2 Mark McGwire hit a 491-foot (150-meter) home run, becoming just the fourth player to clear the left-field roof at Tiger Stadium. Detroit overcame that blow as Tony Clark hit a three-run homer, and Brian Hunter and Damion Easley also connected.

Rangers 10, Blue Jays 5 Dean Palmer hit a grand slam and a home run with no one on base as Texas beat Toronto for the sixth straight time.

Angels 11, Royals 1 Tim Salmon tied a career-high with five RBIs, and rookie Jason Dickson pitched a three-hitter at Kansas City.

Indians 6, Brewers 4 Orel Hershiser pitched Cleveland past visiting Milwaukee in spite of hitting three batters, a career-high, and making a throwing error. *(NYT, AP)*

Cordero Hits Homer As Red Sox Beat Orioles

The Associated Press

Wil Cordero homered in a three-run fourth inning, and the Boston Red Sox beat the Baltimore Orioles, 4-2, Monday in the Patriots Day morning game.

Aaron Sele allowed one run and five hits in 6⅔ innings, walked five and struck out three.

Scott Erickson gave up all four runs — three earned — in 5⅓ innings. Baltimore stranded runners in each of the first four innings and left nine on in all.

Boston went ahead in the fourth when Reggie Jefferson singled, Tim Naehring doubled, Troy O'Leary hit a sacrifice fly and Cordero hit his fourth homer, a drive over the Green Monster in left field.

Tim Sharp/The Associated Press

Toronto's Julio Mosquera letting go his bat, which landed in the Blue Jays' dugout.

Oilers Daze Stars In 4-3 OT Victory

The Associated Press

With four minutes to play in Edmonton, the Oilers trailed the Dallas Stars, 3-0, in their Western Conference playoff game.

But the Oilers drew even with goals by Doug Weight, Andrei Kovalenko and Mike

NHL PLAYOFFS

Grier and then won the game Sunday, 4-3, nine minutes and 15 seconds into overtime with a goal by Kelly Buchberger.

Mike Modano, Benoit Hogue and Joe Nieuwendyk gave the Stars a three-goal lead before the end of the second period.

The Oilers lead the first-round series, 2-1, over Dallas. Game 4 is Tuesday night in Edmonton.

Blackhawks 4, Avalanche 3 In Chicago, the Blackhawks outworked Colorado, the defending Stanley Cup champion, to win on Sergei Krivokrasov's goal 11:03 into the second overtime.

The Blackhawks blew a 3-1 third-period lead, but the Avalanche helped them by missing several scoring chances. Colorado would have been hopelessly behind if not for Patrick Roy's stellar goaltending.

Eric Daze scored twice and Tony Amonte once for Chicago. Keith Jones, Rene Corbet and Claude Lemieux had goals for the Avalanche.

The Avalanche is ahead, 2-1, in the best-of-seven series that resumes Tuesday in Chicago.

Rangers 3, Panthers 0 In the Eastern Conference, Mike Richter stopped 31 shots for his seventh career playoff shutout as New York won in Florida.

John Vanbiesbrouck had blanked New York for four and a half periods before Wayne Gretzky broke his spell with a slapshot in the second period of the game Sunday.

Esa Tikkanen and Luc Robitaille also scored for the Rangers to tie the series at one game each.

Red Wings 3, Blues 2 In St. Louis, Brendan Shanahan and Steve Yzerman scored goals on power plays to end a dominating run by St. Louis's penalty killers. Kris Draper scored the first goal for the Red Wings, who took a 2-1 lead in the best-of-7 series. Brett Hull got his first goal of the playoffs and Joe Murphy also scored for the Blues.

The Red Wings had gone 0-for-14 on the power play in the first two games but were 2-for-9 in Game 3.

Coyotes 4, Mighty Ducks 1 Darrin Shannon scored two first-period goals while Nikolai Khabibulin held off Anaheim, which leads the series 2-1, with 30 saves for a Phoenix victory at home. Mike Gartner broke out of a scoring slump to add the Coyotes' fourth goal.

SCOREBOARD

BASEBALL

MAJOR LEAGUE STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

EAST DIVISION	W	L	Pct.	GB
Baltimore	11	3	.786	—
Toronto	8	7	.533	3½
Boston	8	8	.500	4
Detroit	8	11	.421	5½
New York	7	11	.389	6
CENTRAL DIVISION				
Milwaukee	8	6	.571	—
Minnesota	10	8	.556	—
Cleveland	8	9	.471	1½
Kansas City	7	8	.467	1½
Chicago	5	12	.294	4½
WEST DIVISION				
Seattle	11	7	.611	—
Texas	8	7	.533	1½
Oakland	9	9	.500	2
Anaheim	7	9	.438	3

NATIONAL LEAGUE

EAST DIVISION	W	L	Pct.	GB
Atlanta	13	4	.765	—
Florida	10	7	.588	3
Montreal	7	9	.438	5½
New York	6	11	.353	7
Philadelphia	5	12	.294	8
CENTRAL DIVISION				
Houston	11	7	.611	—
Pittsburgh	8	8	.500	2
St. Louis	6	11	.353	4½
Cincinnati	6	12	.333	5
Chicago	1	14	.067	8½
WEST DIVISION				
San Francisco	13	3	.813	—
Colorado	11	5	.688	2
Los Angeles	10	6	.625	3
San Diego	9	7	.562	4

SUNDAY'S LINE SCORES

AMERICAN LEAGUE

Oakland 010 001 000—2 8 1
Detroit 500 010 21x—9 12 1
Karsay, R. Lewis (7), Taylor (8) and Hayes; Moehler, Mlicki (8) and B. Johnson. W—Moehler, 1-1. L—Karsay, 0-2. HRs—Oak., McGwire (6), Magadan (1). Det., Eusley (2), B. L.Hunter (1), To.Clark (7).

Milwaukee 003 001 000—4 7 3
Cleveland 010 021 10x—4 7 1
Kori, Florie (5), Wickman (6), Miranda (8) and Mathews; Hershiser, Kline (7), Plunk (7), Mesa (9) and S. Alomar. W—Hershiser, 1-0. L—Wickman, 2-1. Sv—Mesa (2). HRs—Milwaukee, Burnitz (2). Cleveland, Curtis (2).

Anaheim 510 002 210—11 16 0
Kansas City 000 000 010—1 3 1
Dickson and Leyritz; Rusch, M.Williams (6), R. Veres (8), Pichardo (9) and M.Sweeney. W—Dickson, 3-0. L—Rusch, 2-1. HRs—Kansas City, Paquette (2).

Baltimore 000 002 102—31 15 0
Boston 000 001 000—1 7 3
Key, Te.Mathews (6), A. Benitez (9) and Hoiles; Gordon, Hammond (5), B. Henry (7), Mahomes (8), Slocumb (9), Trlicek (9) and Hassinger. W—Key, 3-0. L—Gordon, 1-2. HR—Baltimore, Hoiles (2).

Toronto 030 002 000—5 13 0
Texas 114 120 01x—10 13 0
Guzman, Quantrill (5), Spoljaric (6), Crabtree (8) and Mazzone; Witt, Patterson (7), Wetteland (9) and I. Rodriguez. W—Witt, 3-0. L—Guzman, 2-2. HRs—Toronto, C. Delgado (3), Carter (2). Texas—I. Rodriguez (1), Palmer 2 (4), Greer (2).

New York 000 003 400 00—7 12 0
Chicago 001 310 020 01—8 16 0
D.Wells, Westbrook (5), Nelson (7), Stanton (7), Boehringer (8) and Posada; Baldwin, T. Castillo (7), Stites (7), C. Castillo (7), R.Hernandez (9), Levine (11) and Kreuter. Karkovice (10). W—Levine, 1-1. L—Boehringer, 0-1. HRs—Chicago, Kreuter (1), Snopek (3).

Milwaukee 000 002 100—4 12 1
Seattle 000 223 03x—10 11 0
Aldred, Ritchie (6), Olson (6), Guardado (7), Aguilera (8) and G.Myers; Sirotka (7); Wolcott, McCarthy (7), Ayala (7), Charlton (8) and Mariano, Wilson (7). W—Wolcott, 2-1. L—Ritchie, 2-2. Sv—Charlton (5). HRs—Minnesota, T. Walker (1), Cromer (2). Seattle, Griffey Jr (9).

NATIONAL LEAGUE

Chicago 101 000 000—2 5 1
New York 285 100 00x—8 13 0
First Game: Trachsel, Casian (3), Tolls (4), Bottenfield (8) and Servais; Jones and Hundley. W—Jones, 3-1. L—Trachsel, 0-3. HRs—Chicago, Grace (2). New York, Olerud (2), Everett 2 (2).

Chicago 000 002 200—4 12 0
New York 000 010 002—3 8 1
Second Game: Foster, Patterson (7), Rojas (8), Wendell (9) and Houston; Mlicki, Borland (6), Bohanon (6), Manuel (7), R. Jordan (9) and A.Castillo, Handley (8). W—Foster, 1-1. L—Mlicki, 0-1. Sv—Wendell (1). HRs—New York, M. Franco (1).

Montreal 030 002 000—5 11 0
Philadelphia 000 100 000—1 3 0
First Game: Juden, D. Veres (6) and Widger; B.Munoz, Blazier (7) and Lieberthal. W—Juden, 2-0. L—B. Munoz, 0-4. Sv—D. Veres (1).

Montreal 100 110 000—3 6 0
Philadelphia 000 000 000—0 5 0
Second Game: P.J.Martinez, Urbina (8) and Fletcher; Portugal, Rottcom (5), Mimbs (6), Spradlin (9) and Parent. W—P.J.Martinez, 2-0. L—Portugal, 0-1. Sv—Urbina (1).

Cincinnati 100 011 000—3 9 1
Pittsburgh 210 020 00x—5 7 2
Mercker, Bones (5), Belinda (6), Carrasco (8) and Taubensee; Lieber, Loiselle (8), Ericks (9) and Kendall. W—Lieber, 1-0. L—Mercker, 1-2. Sv—Ericks (6).

Atlanta 010 000 001—2 8 3
Colorado 300 022 11x—9 20 0
Smoltz, Embree (6), Clontz (7), Wade (8), Borowski (8) and J.Lopez; Holmes, M. Munoz (7), S. Reed (8), B. Ruffin (9) and Je.Reed. W—Holmes, 1-0. L—Smoltz, 2-3. HR—Atlanta, J. Lopez (3).

Houston 001 000 020—3 6 1
Los Angeles 000 001 000—1 6 0
Hoik, Martin (8), Hudek (9) and Eusebio; I.Valdes, Candiotti (8), Hall (8), Guthrie (9) and Piazza. W—Hoik, 2-1. L—Candiotti, 2-1. Sv—Hudek (3). HRs—Houston, Biggio 2 (3). Los Angeles, Mondesi (5).

Florida 000 000 000—0 7 0
San Francisco 110 000 00x—2 5 1
A.Fernandez, Cook (7) and C. Johnson; O.Fernandez, D. Henry (8), R.Rodriguez (8), Beck (9) and R. Wilkins. W—O. Fernandez, 2-1. L—A. Fernandez, 2-2. Sv—Beck (10).

St. Louis 001 100 000—2 9 0
San Diego 201 400 10x—8 12 0
Raggio, Frascatore (4), Batchelor (6), Fossas (8) and Lampkin, Sheaffer (6); Ashby, Bergman (8) and Flaherty. W—Ashby, 1-1. L—Raggio, 1-1. HR—St. Louis, Gant (2).

BASKETBALL

NBA STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

ATLANTIC DIVISION	W	L	Pct	GB
y-Miami	61	21	.744	—
x-New York	57	25	.695	4
x-Orlando	45	37	.549	16
x-Washington	44	38	.537	17
New Jersey	26	56	.317	35
Philadelphia	22	60	.268	39
Boston	15	67	.183	46
CENTRAL DIVISION				
z-Chicago	69	13	.841	—
x-Atlanta	56	26	.683	13
x-Detroit	54	28	.659	15
x-Charlotte	54	28	.659	15
Cleveland	42	40	.512	27
Indiana	39	43	.476	30
Milwaukee	33	49	.402	36
Toronto	30	52	.366	39

PLAYOFF MATCHUPS

Chicago vs. Washington
Miami vs. Orlando
New York vs. Charlotte
Atlanta vs. Detroit

WESTERN CONFERENCE

MIDWEST DIVISION	W	L	Pct	GB
z-Utah	64	18	.780	—
x-Houston	57	25	.695	7
x-Minnesota	40	42	.488	24
Dallas	24	58	.293	40
Denver	21	61	.256	43
San Antonio	20	62	.244	44
Vancouver	14	68	.171	50
PACIFIC DIVISION				
y-Seattle	57	25	.695	—
x-L.A. Lakers	56	26	.683	1
x-Portland	49	33	.598	8
x-Phoenix	40	42	.488	17
x-L.A. Clippers	36	46	.439	21
Sacramento	34	48	.415	23
Golden State	30	52	.366	27

(z-won conference title)
(y-won division title)
(x-clinched playoff berth)

PLAYOFF MATCHUPS

Utah vs. L.A. Clippers
Seattle vs. Phoenix
Houston vs. Minnesota
L.A. Lakers vs. Portland

SUNDAY'S RESULTS

Toronto 31 33 29 32—125
Boston 30 19 17 28— 94
T: Stoudamire 12-23 5-5 32, Christie 8-19 8-8 27, Slater 9-15 3-5 21; B: Day 8-17 2-2 22, Walker 7-22 5-6 21. Rebounds—Toronto 39 (Jones 12), Boston 46 (Hamer 8). Assists—Toronto 25 (Stoudamire 6), Boston 21 (Wesley 6).

Washington 23 12 29 21— 85
Cleveland 27 17 22 15— 81
W: Webber 9-16 2-4 23, Strickland 7-16 5-6 19; C: Brandon 13-26 2-3 28, Potapenko 5-11 2-2 12. Rebounds—Washington 56 (Webber 17), Cleveland 42 (Mills, Hill 7). Assists—Washington 18 (Strickland 9), Cleveland 22 (Sura 11).

Houston 21 25 25 32—103
San Antonio 23 23 21 32— 99
H: Olajuwon 9-16 9-9 27, Barkley 8-19 7-9 24; S.A.: Herrera 8-20 3-9 19, Wilkins 7-13 3-4 18. Rebounds—Houston 54 (Barkley 14), San Antonio 54 (Herrera 14). Assists—Houston 20 (Barkley, Maloney 4), San Antonio 21 (Alexander 7).

L.A. Lakers 26 22 26 22— 96
Portland 30 29 18 23—100
L.A.: Campbell 12-21 5-5 29, S.O'Neal 11-21 2-5 24; P: C.Robinson 5-10 7-8 18, Anderson 7-16 2-2 18. Rebounds—Los Angeles 42 (Campbell 11), Portland 51 (Sabonis 9). Assists—Los Angeles 19 (Van Exel 8), Portland 18 (C.Robinson 7).

Detroit 26 22 34 30 12—124
Indiana 27 29 27 29 8—120
D: Hill 12-20 14-21 38, Mills 9-14 0-0 24; I: Smits 11-24 7-9 29, Miller 7-14 8-8 2. Rebounds—Detroit 44 (McKie 8), Indiana 64 (D.Davis 14). Assists—Detroit 19 (Hill, McKie 7), Indiana 27 (Jackson 12).

Atlanta 17 29 22 24— 92
New Jersey 15 32 31 30—108
A: Henderson 9-18 1-1 19, Barry 6-11 0-0 16; N.J.: Jackson 10-16 0-0 25, Gill 6-17 11-13 23. Kittles 9-19 3-4 23. Rebounds—Atlanta 53 (Henderson 10), New Jersey 65 (Massenburg 11). Assists—Atlanta 20 (Smith 4), New Jersey 31 (Jackson 12).

Charlotte 21 34 19 26—100
Milwaukee 31 33 33 23—120
C: Rice 7-15 6-6 21, Addison 7-13 2-3 18; M: Baker 13-13 5-9 31, Gillam 10-11 3-4 23, Allen 7-13 4-5 21. Rebounds—Charlotte 38 (Mason 11), Milwaukee 51 (Baker, Robinson 8). Assists—Charlotte 19 (Mason, Smith 5), Milwaukee 30 (Douglas 10).

Utah 27 23 36 27—113
Sacramento 29 21 28 31—109
U: Stockton 6-9 4-4 17, Anderson 6-12 2-2 14; S: Abdul-Rauf 11-16 7-9 34, Polynice 7-11 5-6 19. Rebounds—Utah 37 (Malone 6), Sacramento 46 (Polynice 9). Assists—Utah 29 (Stockton 14), Sacramento 21 (Smith 5).

HOCKEY

NHL PLAYOFFS

FIRST ROUND
(BEST-OF-7)
SUNDAY'S RESULTS

N.Y. Rangers 0 2 1—3
Florida 0 0 0—0
First Period: None. Second Period: New York, Gretzky 1 (Lidster) 2, New York, Tikkanen 1 (Graves, Messier) (pp). Third Period: New York, Robitaille 1 (Gretzky, Sundstrom) Shots on goal: New York 13-19-12—44, F- 14-8-9—31. Goalies: New York, Richter, F-Vanbiesbrouck.

Detroit 1 2 0—3
St. Louis 1 1 0—2
First Period: D-Draper 2 (Maltby, Kocur) 2, St. Louis, Hull 1, Second Period: D-Shanahan 1 (Murphy, Larionov) (pp). 4, S.L.-Murphy 1 (Hull) (pp). 5, D-Yzerman 1 (Lidstrom, Larionov) (pp). Third Period: None. Shots on goal: D- 13-10-6—29, S.L.- 3-8-15—26. Goalies: D-Vernon. S.L.-Fuhr.

Colorado 0 1 2 0 0—3
Chicago 1 1 1 0 1—4
First Period: C-Daze 1 (Corney) Second Period: C-Jones 1 (Sakic, Lemieux) 3, C-Amonte 1 (Walwich, Suter) Third Period: C-Daze 2 (Probert) 5, C-, Corbet 1 (Yelle, Lacroix) 6, C-Lemieux 3 (Foote, Gusarov) First Overtime: None. Second Overtime: 7, C-Krivokrasov 1, Shots on goal: C- 4-12-14-16-5—51, C- 9-19-9-14-6—57. Goalies: C-Roy. C-Hackett.

Anaheim 1 0 0—1
Phoenix 3 0 1—4
First Period: Phoenix, Shannon 1 (Ronning, Roenick) 2, Phoenix, Shannon 2 (Quint) 3, Phoenix, Tkachuk 3 (Ronning) 4, A-Kariya 3 (Dolgneault, Mironov) (pp). Second Period—No scoring. Third Period: Phoenix, Gartner 1 (Tverdovsky, Ronning) Shots on goal: A- 11-9-11—31, Phoenix 7-12-7—26. Goalies: A-Hebert. Phoenix, Khabibulin.

Dallas 2 1 0 0—3
Edmonton 0 0 3 1—4
First Period: D-Modano 2 (Zubov) (sh). 2, D-, Hogue 1 (Sydor, Harvey) (pp). Second Period: D-Nieuwendyk 2 (Hogue, Verbeek) Third Period: E-Weight 2. 5, E-, Kovalenko 1 (Marchant, Mironov) (pp). 6, E-Grier 2 (McGillis, Richardson) Overtime: 7, E-Buchberger 2 (Lindgren, Mironov) Shots on goal: D- 11-13-10-8-42, E- 11-7-17-6—41. Goalies: D-Moog. E-Joseph.

SOCCER

FRENCH CUP
SEMIFINAL

Laval 0, Nice 1

WORLD CUP QUALIFYING

U.S. 2, Mexico 2

ITALIAN FIRST DIVISION

Napoli 0, Atalanta 1
STANDINGS: Juventus 55; Parma 49; Internazionale 46; Sampdoria 44; Lazio 43, Bologna 43; Udinese 41; Vicenza 39, Fiorentina 39, Atalanta 39; Milan 37; Roma 36; Napoli 34; Piacenza 29; Cagliari 27, Perugia 27; Verona 23; Reggiana 19.

MAJOR LEAGUE SOCCER

Columbus 2, San Jose 1
Dallas 4, Colorado 1
New England 2, Tampa Bay 1
STANDINGS: Eastern Conference: D.C. 9; Tampa Bay 9; New England 6; Columbus 5; NY-NJ 3; Western Conference: Kansas City 7; Dallas 6; San Jose 4; Los Angeles 3; Colorado 3.

TENNIS

BARCELONA OPEN

FINAL

Albert Costa (7), Spain, def. Albert Portas, def. Spain, 7-5, 6-4, 6-4.

CRICKET

FIRST TEST
PAKISTAN VS. SRILANKA
MONDAY, IN COLOMBO

Sri Lanka Innings: 330
Pakistan Innings: 370-9

TRANSITIONS

BASEBALL
MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL
AMERICAN LEAGUE

DETROIT —Put C Matt Walbeck on 15-day disabled list. Recalled C Raul Casanova from Toledo, IL.

KANSAS CITY —Put RHP Jeff Montgomery on 15-day disabled list.

SEATTLE —Assigned P Jeff Farnsworth and OF Miguel Cairo to Lancaster, CL.

TEXAS —Activated OF Warren Newson from 15-day disabled list. Optioned INF Dave Silvestri to Oklahoma City, AA.

TORONTO —Put C Benito Santiago on 15-day disabled list. Recalled C Julio Mosquera from Knoxville, SL.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

CHICAGO —Activated 1B Mark Grace from 15-day disabled list. Optioned Brant Brown to Iowa, AA.

FLORIDA —Sent LHP Matt Whisenant to Brevard, FSL, on injury rehabilitation assignment.

MONTREAL —Claimed RHP Salmon Torres on waivers from Seattle Mariners.

PHILADELPHIA —Optioned RHP Ron Blazier to Scranton Wilkes-Barre of IL.

SAN FRANCISCO —Put OF Darryl Hamilton on 15-day disabled list.

BASKETBALL
NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION

PHILADELPHIA —Fired Brad Greenberg, general manager-vice president of basketball operations, and Johnny Davis, coach.

FOOTBALL
NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE

JACKSONVILLE —Signed PK Mike Hollis, TE Rich Griffith and DT Andre Davis.

MIAMI —Announced retirement of QB Bernie Kosar. PHILADELPHIA—Announced New England Patriots had matched offer sheet to DE Ferric Collons. Signed DE John Duff. Re-signed DT Michael Samson. Released DB Alix Johnson. Agreed to terms with LB Darrin Smith on 1-year contract.

ST. LOUIS —Signed G John Gerak.

HOCKEY
NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE

LOS ANGELES—Sent RW Nathan Lafayette to Syracuse, AHL.

MONTREAL—Recalled D Brad Brown from Fredricton, AHL.

NEW JERSEY—Recalled C Petr Sykora and LW Patrik Elias from Albany, AHL.

NEW YORK—Assigned RW Steve Webb and LW Ken Belanger to Kentucky, AHL.

SAN JOSE —Assigned LW Steve Guolla and G Wade Flaherty to Kentucky, AHL.

TAMPA BAY —Signed G Zac Bierk. Sent C Jeff Toms to Adirondack, AHL.

TORONTO —Sent RW Jason Podollan, D Yannick Tremblay, D Marek Posmyk and G Marcel Cousineau to St. Johns, AHL.

VANCOUVER —Sent C Lonny Bohonos to Syracuse, AHL.

WASHINGTON —Returned LW Andrew Brunette and RW Jaroslav Svejkovsky to Portland, AHL.

DENNIS THE MENACE

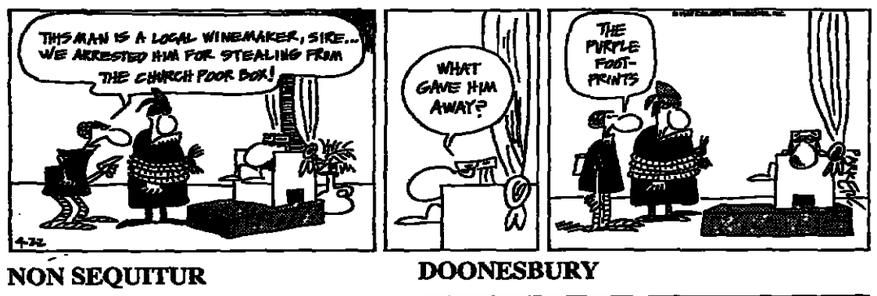
"MOM, WAS DAD A SINGLE PARENT BEFORE YOU CAME TO WORK FOR US?"

PEANUTS

CALVIN AND HOBBES

GARFIELD

WIZARD of ID



JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Mike Argirion

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

ENVOM
SONDY
LURPPE
AJURAG

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer here: THE

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: LOONY FIFTY HEALTH AFRAID
Answer: Easy for a gas station attendant to get — HIS "FILE" OF IT

BEETLE BAILEY

NON SEQUITUR

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ART BUCHWALD

The Wages of Law

WASHINGTON — The American public watches more crime shows on television than any other form of entertainment. Most involve shooting, mayhem and lawyers. But the TV producers don't show you what really happens when a character seeks out a lawyer to defend him.

Butch Raton, falsely accused of killing the man who walked his dog, is ushered into the marble halls of Whatnot, Whatnot & Whatnot — the celebrated trial lawyers — and escorted to the mahogany-paneled office of *Hiram Whatnot.*

Buchwald

Hiram speaks first: "If you sit down, it will cost you $5,000."

"But I haven't even told you my story."

"We don't listen to a story until we get paid.

"On television they never show a client paying his legal fee. It gives the public a false impression of how the legal system works. The most terrible thing in this country is that the American people expect lawyers to work for nothing."

□

"I'm willing to pay a reasonable retainer in exchange for an acquittal, as well as an hourlong interview with Barbara Walters."

"There is no such thing as a reasonable fee. Lawyers must be compensated as much as TV repairmen. When evil lurks in the hearts of men it is our job to get the person off. But we can't do it for chopped chicken liver."

"How much do you want?"

"For a criminal case we always ask for $25,000."

"I'll pay it."

"That's just for starters. Once our law clerks begin examining the evidence, we charge $500 an hour, not counting photocopying, faxing and cellular phone charges to our London office."

"You're not cheap."

"We have 150 partners to feed as well as expenses for the company trip to Bermuda. We are one of the top law firms in the country. We won the Judge Ito Softball Championship this spring. You're lucky to get us."

□

"Do you take credit cards?"

"*That would be tacky.* We prefer a cashier's check or cash."

"What kind of defense do I have?"

"It all depends on how many TV shows we can get you on. The TV producers aren't hungry for a man who killed his dog-walker. It's going to be hard even to plead a crime of passion."

"Can I make a deal?"

"You can, but it will cost you an extra $67,000."

"Could you cut your fee if I pleaded insanity?"

"Insanity is not a good thing to plead because there's no money in it. Would you like a peppermint?"

"Thanks."

"That will be another $25."

□

"Can I ask you a question?

Why don't they ever show lawyers demanding their fees on TV?"

"It would be too violent and would cause lifelong damage to the children."

Homer: A Translator's Odyssey

By Mel Gussow
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — When Robert Fagles translates Homer, legions of earlier translators are looking over his shoulder, along with Homer himself, a lively presence from 2,700 years ago. Then there is what he refers to as "the translation police," that cadre of keepers of the Homeric flame who will allow no divergence from the original.

In a recent interview, Fagles declined to name the members of the translation police because he did not want to "call them down from heaven with lightning bolts." Undaunted, he has had his own way with Homer, six years ago with his acclaimed translation of "The Iliad," currently with his version of "The Odyssey." With both books, he has approached Homer as a kind of bardic performance artist, uncovering a *spontaneity behind the lapidarian* poetry.

Fagles recently was awarded the *PEN/Ralph Manheim Medal for* lifetime achievement in the field of translation. One other sign of his success is that, along with the text of "The Odyssey" (published by Viking), there is the audio version of the complete poem, recorded by Ian McKellen on 12 cassettes and running 13 hours and 10 minutes.

McKellen's performance, in which he acts as narrator and plays all the characters, is the ideal accompaniment to the book. The published text, now in its seventh printing, has sold 50,000 copies and the audio version 9,000, a bonanza for such a literary work.

Asked why he had chosen to translate "The Odyssey," despite all the extant versions, Fagles indicated that there are as many reasons as there are Disney Dalmatians, and the first is that translation is not "a word-for-word equivalent, but an interpretation." Quoting W.H. Auden, he regards a translation as "Braille for the blind."

"Homer is always changing," he said. "You might say that he's fixed back there in time, but he's always being transformed by subsequent ages that absorb him and revise him and see him according to their own lights." Although the text is fairly stable, Homer is "something of a moving target."

For Fagles, it is as important to know what poets are doing "in the name of Homer, as it is for me to master Homer himself." He amended that statement, "Or herself. I doubt very much that Homer was a woman, but Robert Graves thought so in that fascinating book of his called 'The Authoress of the Odyssey.'" It is also theorized that there was more than one Homer, but Fagles said he had "always resisted the idea of Homer as committee." He added: "If Homer was a performer, as he seems to have been, rather than a writer, there is all the room in the world for another performance. If Homer were the one telling the story, he probably had to ventriloquize his voice into the voices of a multiplicity of characters, very much what Ian McKellen is doing."

Through centuries, the work had to be handed down by word of mouth. The question of authenticity leads Fagles to a serendipitous conclusion: "It's nice not to have to face the heirs of Homer. If I thought the translation police were a problem, God knows what the heirs would be."

Although some translators feel a keen sense of competition, he said, he takes a more evolutionary approach: one translation leads to and feeds another. He is, however, disparaging about George Chapman's 17th-century version, the subject of the Keats poem, "On First Looking Into Chapman's Homer." On last looking, Fagles retained his skepticism: "I find him almost impossible to read. He's everything Homer is not. He is complicated and clumsy and Homer is swift, direct and simple." Fortunately, "Homer managed to survive Chapman and fall into Pope's hands," and Pope's Homer is "senatorial, finished, a highly literary product."

Two contemporary writers were crucial to Homer and closest to Fagles. Reading Richmond Lattimore's "Iliad" as a freshman at Amherst College, he experienced a Keatsian epiphany, and ended his pre-med curriculum and began studying Greek. Robert Fitzgerald's "very lyrical, very personal" "Odyssey" was a further revelation.

He admired their work (and Fitzgerald became a friend), but he is candid about their perspective: "Both were more interested in translating Homer into a literary artifact than in producing a kind of performance."

Fagles said there was an awakening of interest in Homer, akin to that in Jane Austen. "It is a hungering for stories we can sink our teeth into," he said. "There's a lot of academic hand-wringing about the death of literacy, the death of the book. Such things belie that, as do the superstores with their inventory of over 100,000 titles."

David Corio/The New York Times
Fagles: "Homer is always changing."

In his version, Fagles wanted to combine the timely and the timeless. His purpose, he said, was "to convey the sound of many voices." On one level, this means diversifying the language. For example, in many translations, there are repeated references to the "resourceful Odysseus." "If I did that," he said, "I would feel resourceless." In response, he reinterprets the Greek word *polumatis*. Depending on the context, Odysseus is varyingly referred to as "the great tactician," "the great teller of tales" and "the man of all occasions." On the other hand, there are some givens in Homeric translation: the expression "wine-dark sea."

Speaking pragmatically, Fagles says there may come a time when his version will be considered out of date. If so, it will not be outmoded by "events or modes of scholarship but by a writer who has an idea for doing it in a way that hasn't been done before," the need, in other words, for "a new kind of Braille for the blind." As with Fagles, there will always be intrepid voyagers in the world of Homer.

Despite all difficulties, he said, "the business of translating Homer is irresistible."

The Starting Gate

New York Times Service

THE opening lines of "The Odyssey" in various translations over the centuries:

The man, O Muse, informe, that many a way
Wound with his wisedome to his wished stay;
That wanderd wondrous farre when He the towne
Of sacred Troy had sackt and shiverd downe.
George Chapman (1616)

The Man, for wisdom's various arts renown'd,
Long exercis'd in woes, O Muse! resound.
Who, when his arms had wrought the destin'd fall
Of sacred Troy, and raz'd her heav'n-built wall . . .
Alexander Pope (1726)

O divine poesy
Goddess-daughter of Zeus
Sustain for me
The song of the various-minded man
Who after he had plundered
The innermost citadel of hallowed Troy
Was made to stray grievously.
T.E. Lawrence (1932)

Sing in me, Muse, and through me tell the story
of that man, skilled in all ways of contending,
the wanderer, harried for years on end, after he plundered
the stronghold on the proud height of Troy.
Robert Fitzgerald (1961)

Tell me, Muse, of the man of many ways, who was driven
far journeys, after he had sacked Troy's sacred citadel.
Richmond Lattimore (1967)

Sing to me of the man, Muse, the man of twists and turns
driven time and again off course, once he had plundered
the hallowed heights of Troy.
Robert Fagles (1996)

PEOPLE

Into the final frontier: Gene Roddenberry, left, and Timothy Leary.

THE ashes of "Star Trek" creator **Gene Roddenberry** and the LSD advocate **Timothy Leary** rocketed into the final frontier on Monday. The Pegasus rocket detached from a Lockheed L-1011 over the Canary Islands and roared off into space, carrying their ashes and those of 22 others, including several space pioneers. The flight fulfills one of Leary's last wishes, said **Carol Rosin**, a friend who came to Spain to watch the launch. She said that the LSD guru had told her last year, when he was dying of prostate cancer, "I want you to get me into outer space." On Leary's vial, was inscribed the message: "Peace Love Light YouMeOne" Roddenberry, whose 1960s "Star Trek" TV series gained a cult following, didn't know about plans for space funerals when he died in 1991. The Houston-based Celestis Inc., which launched the space funeral industry on Monday, telephoned **Majel Roddenberry**, who agreed to send the ashes of her husband where he had never gone before.

□

Pulling a major article on deadline simply isn't done at The New Yorker. But the veteran staff writer **Mark Danner** did it, infuriating editor **Tina Brown** in the process. For this week's special double issue on Europe, Danner had submitted a 16,000-word rumination called "Marooned in the Cold War." Editors cut it to 10,000 words, and Danner balked, saying the point of the piece was to reach non-foreign-policy specialists. Deadline approached. Danner refused to allow the truncated version to be published. Brown and Danner exchanged vituperative letters, sources told The Washington Post, with Danner likening the combat to a nuclear war with no winners. The Europe issue went to press without him.

□

Poets, politicians, hippies and anarchists filled a San Francisco sanctuary to pay a soulful tribute to the late Beat poet **Allen Ginsberg**. More than 2,000 people stood for a poetry reading at Temple Emanu-El in honor of Ginsberg, who died in New York on April 5. **Gary Snyder**, **Robert Hass** and **Lawrence Ferlinghetti** were among poets who reminisced about the man who redefined modern poetry with the graphic, surreal poem "Howl," in 1955.

□

Dowager **Queen Ingrid**, whose common touch helped hold her country together during Nazi occupation, quietly celebrated her 50 years as queen of Denmark. Ingrid, the mother of **Queen Margrethe II**, is still active at age 87. She stepped out of the limelight when her husband, **King Frederick IX**, died in 1972, but her easy-going style surfaced again last month when she was pulled from a burning car, then calmly went out for coffee while her driver doused the flames.

□

The mother of the slain rapper **Tupac Shakur** has sued Death Row Records for $17 million, claiming that the label had failed to pay royalties. The federal suit follows a $7.1 million lawsuit Death Row filed against Shakur's estate earlier this month, demanding reimbursement for money allegedly advanced to Shakur for cars, houses, jewelry and other expenditures.

□

The Frenchman **Alain Robert**, known as "Spiderman" for scaling high-rise buildings, has added the 32-story Sabah Foundation building in Malaysia's eastern Sabah state to his list of conquests. Watched by a crowd of hundreds in Sabah state's capital of Kota Kinabalu, Robert reached the top of the building from the 16th floor in less than five minutes. Robert made headlines in Malaysia when he was arrested last month for scaling the Petronas Twin Towers in Kuala Lumpur without permission. His most recent climb was for charity.

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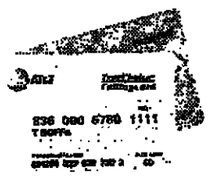

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